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given that I might want to question Mr. Gocial on. And if he's not present in order to hear that testimony, I would have no opportunity to ask him about whether or not that testimony affects his opinions.

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THE COURT: The Court's intention is to enforce the rule on witnesses. If you wish to be heard, Mr. O'Brien or Mr. Lomas, I will certainly hear from you. The Court was not aware that this was an issue that would arise. Do you wish to be heard?

MR. LOMAS: Thank you, Your Honor. As we discussed at the January 31, 2011 status conference, Mr. Gocial, the expert witness here, is testifying purely on the amount of damages assuming liability. It's a very narrow scope of testimony, and Your Honor limited that testimony to just two invoices. So it's the amount of damages with respect to two invoices.

And the claim in this case is also a very narrow one. It is whether or not this per-10-copy running rate should apply to a line item in the contract between Record Press and the Government Printing Office.

So the amount of damages, the calculation is a very simple one. There's no need, Your Honor, for Mr. Gocial to hear testimony of witnesses concerning liability or so forth, since the opinion is purely based on an assumption of liability, and just simply applying the contract in the way that Mr. Burke alleges it should have been applied.

THE COURT: Very well. Thank you, Mr. Lomas. The
Court intends to enforce the rule on witnesses. Mr. Gocial is a
witness, and the Court will require Mr. Gocial to wait in a
witness room or elsewhere in the courthouse until it is time for
his testimony to be elicited.
Mr. Gocial, the deputy clerk of court will escort you
to a comfortable place. You are not confined there, of course.
We will just ask you to perhaps regard that as your home base
until it is time for your testimony to be taken. She will also
tell you where the cafeteria is, where I believe there might
still be at least beverage service until lunchtime. Thank you
very much.
(OFF THE RECORD.)
THE COURT: We will certainly indicate that I have no
objection whatsoever to your having your phone, in hopes that
that will be sufficient for you to retrieve it.
MR. LOMAS: Your Honor, if I may.
THE COURT: Yes.
MR. LOMAS: I would like to point out, we do have two
additional witnesses that are in the courtroom from the
Government Printing Office.
THE COURT: I did not realize that the others were
witnesses. I recognize Mr. Valdez on the front row as an
Assistant U.S. Attorney. He is not a witness
MR. LOMAS: Correct.

matters on behalf of the plaintiff, Mr. King?

1 MR. KING: No, Your Honor. 2 THE COURT: Very well. Mr. King, we'll hear your 3 opening statement. MR. KING: Good morning, Your Honor. 4 5 THE COURT: Good morning. 6 MR. KING: Thank you for your time today. Mr. Burke is 7 a relator in a False Claims Act case. This case is brought 8 under 31 USC 3729(A), relating to claims that are knowingly --9 false claims that are knowingly presented. 10 The evidence is going to show clearly that the invoices 11 submitted by Record Press to the GPO constitute false claims 12 under the False Claims Act because Record Press knowingly 13 submitted them, and those invoices contained charges which were 14 not allowed for in the contract. 15 The defense may try to confuse or complicate this case 16 by what the GPO thinks or says, but the fact is that the evidence will show that Record Press had no knowledge of the 17 18 GPO's understanding, and that the government knowledge defense, to the extent that they may try to implicate it, is not at issue 19 here. Because the simple fact is that Record Press had no 20 21 reason to believe that the contract should mean anything other 22 than what it says. And the evidence will clearly show what the 23 contract says. Thank you, Your Honor. 24 THE COURT: Thank you very much, Mr. King. 25 Mr. Lomas or Mr. O'Brien? Mr. Lomas.

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MR. LOMAS: Thank you, Your Honor. This is a simple case concerning a single line item price term: Collating, trimming to size, and binding, from a single contract between Record Press and the United States Government Printing Office.

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Record Press and the United States Government Printing Office are in full agreement that the price for collating, trimming to size, and binding is \$12.25; that no per-10-copy running rate applies to that price, that there has been no overcharging, and there is no fraud.

Your Honor, you're going to see a copy of the contract today, and you may see it up here on the screen in a moment. And you're going to hear testimony about this contract and the particular line item -- the single line item that is at issue: The collating, trimming to size, and binding line item.

If you see on your screen, you're to going to see, there is that line item, II(D), "collating, trimming to size, and binding," and it clearly indicates on this contract \$12.25 per 100 pages. Again, that is the only line item that is at issue.

Now, there are two invoices from Record Press that are in this case. They're related to a case that Mr. Burke had filed against the Secretary of Commerce. His case was dismissed and brought up on appeal, and the -- and he lost his appeal. And the government had appellate briefs and appendices printed for that appeal, and Record Press printed those briefs, and

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Record Press invoiced the GPO for those briefs.

We're going to pull up a copy of the first invoice in this case. And again, there's a line item here for collating, trimming to size, and binding, and you'll see that here on the screen. And the word outlines here the price: \$12.25 per 100 pages, the contract price.

Then we'll show the second invoice from Mr. Burke's case. And here it is again: The collating, trimming to size, and binding charge, explicitly stated on the contract, \$12.25 per 100 pages.

Now, Your Honor, the price in the contract and the amounts that Record Press charged on these invoices don't appear in the complaint because Mr. Burke filed his fraud claim without seeing the Record Press contract and the Record Press invoices. Nevertheless, Mr. Burke disagrees with the Government Printing Office and Record Press that the contract price is \$12.25 per 100 pages.

Now, you're also going to see, Your Honor, a spreadsheet in this case, and the spreadsheet is on this screen. This spreadsheet was sent by the Government Printing Office to prospective vendors such as Record Press, along with the invitation for bids on this contract, meaning that the vendors would have had this spreadsheet in their hand when they received the Government Printing Office's request for their submission of a bid.

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Now, you're going to hear testimony today about this spreadsheet, and you're going to hear that on the left side of this sheet are the line items that are in the request for bid. And the focus here is going to be on this set of line items right here (indicating), that you can see on your screen. And this, again, here is where you see the collating, trimming to size, and binding line item, which again is the only line item that is involved in this case. And right under there it says, "per 100 pages," indicating to prospective vendors that the price should be per 100 pages. Now, Mr. Burke alleges that a per-10-copy running rate

should apply. You can see in line items A and B that a per-10-copy running rate applies only to complete cover and text per page.

So again, this is the spreadsheet that comes to a vendor such as Record Press before they even make their bid on this contract.

Now again, Your Honor, we're here today because a stranger to the contract, Mr. Burke, the relator, filed this qui tam lawsuit, again without seeing the Record Press contract, without seeing the Record Press invoices. And the typical relator in a qui tam false claim suit contemplated by that statute is a whistleblower with some sort of insider knowledge: A government employee, or a former government employee, or a current or former employee of a government contractor who is

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aware of some sort of wrongdoing. Mr. Burke will admit today that he has never been an employee of the Government Printing Office, nor Record Press, certainly not a party to the contract, and had no involvement in the formation of the contract.

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Now, the Court is going to hear from the alleged victim in this case, the Government Printing Office. And the Court is going to hear that the Government Printing Office reviewed Burke's allegations, and reviewed those documents that Burke didn't review before filing this case: The Record Press contract and the Record Press invoices. And the Government Printing Office confirmed, again, that Record Press was charging the correct contract price of \$12.25 per 100 pages, and that there was no overcharging and no fraud.

The Court is going to hear that today from a senior level manager at the GPO who has been at the GPO for more than 30 years and has 30 years of experience in the printing industry, and another 34-plus-year veteran of the GPO, who had responsibility for reviewing printing bidder contracts and invoices to make sure that they were properly paid.

And again, this is a fraud case, so there's an allegation that Record Press is lying to the Government Printing Office. So Mr. Burke has to show that the invoices are false, that Record Press overcharged for collating, trimming to size, and binding, because the contract price is not the \$12.25 per 100 pages that is the GPO and Record Press say it is.

Then the second element he has to show is the knowing element, the knowledge of falsity. It's not that they knew that they were charging \$12.25 per 100 pages, it's that they knew that that was the wrong amount. Mr. King has to show that Record Press knew it was the wrong amount to charge because they knew that a per-10-copy running rate should have applied.

Then the third thing that Mr. King has to show is materiality. The False Claims Act law requires -- as all fraud cases, requires that it would have made a difference. It needed to make a difference here. The behavior would have changed.

Now, with respect to the first element, falsity, fundamental contract law says a contract means what the parties to the contract say it means. And again, you're going to hear today, from both the Government Printing Office and Record Press, that they agree on the contract price of \$12.25 per 100 pages.

And there's a quote that we may pull up on the screen here from a case that I think captures this in the False Claims Act context. It says, "If both the contractor and the government interpret the contract one way throughout the contract's history, it's unthinkable that the contractor's billings which follow this common interpretation could constitute a false claim."

Now, the Court is going to hear today from three witnesses who will confirm that Government Printing Office and

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Record Press have always understood that the contract price is \$12.25 per 100 pages. You hear Mr. Wilmot's name earlier. Mr. Wilmot is going to testify on behalf of Record Press. He's going to talk about how his 65-year-old company that he is with, Record Press, that has been contracting with the government for more than 30 years, has supplied a bid to the Government Printing Office in response to this request for bid. And that bid for that line item was \$12.25 per 100 pages. And there was no 10-copy running rate applied to that price when Record Press submitted its bid.

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Mr. Wilmot will testify that if it did apply, that Record Press would actually be losing money on this contract. So -- to show it's unreasonable. And Mr. Record Press (sic) will testify that Record Press continues to this day to be the vendor for the GPO for appellate briefs under this contract; that the contract was renewed; that the price term is exactly the same, \$12.25 per 100 pages; and that the government continues to accept, approve, and pay those invoices.

I mentioned earlier that you were going to hear from a 34-year veteran of the GPO with experience in reviewing contracts and invoices. That's Mr. Calvin Adgerson, who will testify today. And Mr. Adgerson will confirm, again, that the GPO reviewed Burke's claims and found they had no merit, because the contract price is the \$12.25 per 100 pages.

And then the Court will also hear from

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Mr. Tom Sullivan, who is a senior level manager at the GPO, who is responsible for all of the GPO's procurement of printing contracts from vendors such as Record Press. And he will confirm that he personally reviewed Burke's claims, reviewed the Record Press contract, reviewed the Record Press invoices, and confirmed that there was no fraud, no overcharging. Because Record Press charged the amount that both GPO and Record Press understood the contract price. Mr. Sullivan will be testifying about that spreadsheet that I told you earlier about that shows to prospective vendors how the line items should be priced.

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Now, that's the falsity issue. Then Mr. Burke also has to get over the knowledge element, which means he has to show that Record Press knew that the contract price was wrong that they were charging, knew that the price was actually not \$12.25 per 100 pages. He has to show that the government and Record Press' understanding of that price term was unreasonable, their own price term was unreasonable. And again, the same evidence that we've just discussed will preclude any finding of knowledge.

And then finally, with respect to the materiality element, that Mr. King will have to show that it would make a difference. But the government -- as I said, Your Honor, you're going to hear testimony today that the government and Record Press have continued on to this day, even after reviewing and seeing and knowing about Mr. Burke's claims, that they

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      continue to operate as normal because the contract price is
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      $12.25 per 100 pages.
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                So the GPO renewed the contract, and Record Press
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      continues to operate under that contract, continues to submit
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      invoices with that price, and the GPO continues to accept and
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      approve those payments because that's what they agreed.
               Thank you, Your Honor.
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               THE COURT: Very well. Thank you very much, Mr. Lomas.
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               Mr. King, you may call your first witness.
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               MR. KING: Plaintiff calls Mr. Wilmot.
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               THE COURT: Mr. Wilmot, good morning.
               THE WITNESS: Good morning, Your Honor.
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               THE COURT: Let me ask you to please face the deputy
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      clerk to be sworn, and then have a seat on the witness stand.
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                   (Oath administered by Courtroom Deputy.)
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               THE COURT: Please have a seat.
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               THE WITNESS: Thank you.
               THE COURT: Mr. King, you may proceed.
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               MR. KING: Thank you, Your Honor.
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          (HUGH WILMOT, PLAINTIFF witness, having been duly sworn,
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                            testified as follows:)
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                             DIRECT EXAMINATION
23
      BY MR. KING:
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      Q. Mr. Wilmot, can you please state your name and your address
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      for the record?
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- 1 A. Hugh Wilmot, Junior. 48 Prince Street, Hastings on Hudson,
- 2 New York, 10706.
- 3 Q. And Mr. Wilmot, what is your position with Record Press?
- 4 A. I am the president of Record Press.
- 5 Q. And how long have you been the president of Record Press?
- A. Since 2003. 6
- 7 Q. And before that, were you also an employee of Record Press?
- A. No, I was not. 8
- Q. Okay. Did you work for Record Press in a different capacity 9
- 10 before being president?
- 11 A. Record Press was a client of my firm.
- 12 Q. Okay. Mr. Wilmot, I'm marking a document as Plaintiff's
- 13 Exhibit A.
- 14 MR. KING: Your Honor, may I approach the witness?
- 15 THE COURT: Yes, you may.
- 16 BY MR. KING:
- 17 Q. Mr. Wilmot, I'm handing you a document, Plaintiff's
- 18 Exhibit A.
- Mr. Wilmot, do you recognize this document? 19
- 20 A. Yes, I do.
- Q. And what is the document? 21
- 22 A. This is the bid from the U.S. Government Printing Office.
- 23 Q. And is that your signature on the document, if you would
- 24 look to the signature page?
- 25 A. Yes, it is.

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Q. Was that document made at or near the time of the contract with the GPO? A. Yes, it was. Q. And was it made by a person with knowledge of the contract? A. Could you please rephrase your question? Q. Was the contract made by a person with knowledge of the contract? MR. LOMAS: Your Honor, we'll stipulate to this being admissible, if that's one of the questions. THE COURT: Mr. King, given the stipulation that Plaintiff's Exhibit A is admissible, and further, given my understanding that the questions you're asking now have to do with trying to demonstrate that it's admissible, I'm prepared to admit Plaintiff's Exhibit A without objection. So you may proceed to the questions you have regarding the substance of the contract. And the record will reflect that Plaintiff's Exhibit A is admitted without objection. (PLAINTIFF EXHIBIT A was moved into evidence.) BY MR. KING: Q. Mr. Wilmot, if you look to the last page of that document, it's Bates number RP 69. A. (Witness complies.) Q. Do you see --

THE COURT: Mr. King, my copy does not have RP 69.

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      last page that I have has RP 68. Is there a page that's become
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      misplaced?
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               MR. KING: Yes, there is, Your Honor.
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               THE COURT: Thank you. I'll ask you, Mr. Wilmot, do
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      you have the page that is designated RP 000069?
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               THE WITNESS: I do, Your Honor.
               THE COURT: Very well. Thank you, Mr. King. You may
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 8
      proceed.
      BY MR. KING:
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      Q. Do you recognize that spreadsheet?
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      A. Yes, I do.
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      Q. Do you recall in your deposition that you stated that you
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      had never seen that spreadsheet prior to entering into the
14
      contract?
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               MR. LOMAS: Objection, Your Honor. I don't believe
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      he's established any inconsistency to bring up the prior
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      statement.
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               MR. KING: I'm sorry, what was the objection?
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               THE COURT: Let me ask you to come back to the podium,
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      please. I believe I heard you, Mr. Lomas, but I want to be
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      certain that Mr. King heard you and that the court reporter is
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      able to hear.
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               MR. LOMAS: Thank you. It sounded like Mr. King was
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      referring to prior deposition testimony, but he hasn't shown any
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      inconsistent statement or anything, any basis. So it's hearsay.
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So I just wanted to object to the question about the prior testimony. Thank you. THE COURT: Mr. King? MR. KING: Well, the first question was whether or not Mr. Wilmot recognizes this spreadsheet. He answered that he did recognize this spreadsheet; however, in his deposition he testified that -- he testified differently regarding his knowledge of this spreadsheet. THE COURT: Well, the Court will sustain the objection for the reasons which the objection embodied. In other words, at this time there has been no basis for the attempt to impeach the witness with any prior statement. 13 And before we proceed, let me apologize to all of you for the noise. I assure you that I am able to hear, but I believe on one side of us there is construction under way. I apologize for the disruption. I think if we all keep our voices up, we'll have an accurate record of our proceedings. Unfortunately, there is virtually nothing that I can do about the noise. BY MR. KING: Q. Mr. Wilmot, did you review the spreadsheet before making this contract? A. Yes, I did. 24 Q. Okay. Do you recall that in your deposition you provided testimony that's the opposite of what you're testifying to

- 1 today?
- 2 A. I do not recall that.
- 3 Q. Mr. Wilmot, I'm marking Plaintiff's Exhibit B.
- 4 Actually, I'm going to hold off on Plaintiff's
- 5 Exhibit B for the time being.
- 6 THE COURT: Very well.
- BY MR. KING: 7
- 8 Q. Mr. Wilmot, if I could draw your attention to the page in
- 9 Exhibit Number A that is marked RP 66. Actually, Mr. Wilmot, if
- 10 you could look through the contract and indicate to me on which
- 11 page Roman numeral II appears. Mine appears to be an incomplete
- 12 copy. Do you have RP 67 in your copy?
- 13 A. I do.
- 14 Q. You do. Okay.
- 15 MR. KING: Your Honor, do you have RP 67 in your copy?
- 16 THE COURT: I do.
- BY MR. KING: 17
- 18 Q. Okay. If you look at Roman numeral II, do you see there the
- 19 reference to the running rate?
- 20 A. I do.
- 21 Q. Okay. And are you familiar with what a running rate is?
- 22 A. Yes, I am.
- 23 Q. Okay. And what is a running rate?
- 24 A. A running rate is essentially, in a bidding process or to a
- 25 particular printer, is the amount of copies that a particular

- 1 pricing is going to be based on.
- 2 Q. Okay. And in this case, what amount of copies does the
- 3 running rate refer to?
- 4 A. For line items "Complete cover, wraparound," the price is
- 5 six dollars for a running rate of 10 copies, along with the text
- 6 per page of \$0.35.
- 7 Q. And I'm sorry, could you repeat? What amount of copies does
- the running rate refer to? 8
- A. 10 copies. 9
- 10 Q. Okay. Did Record Press ever issue invoices pursuant to this
- 11 contract that called for a number of copies less than 10?
- 12 A. I believe we have, yes.
- 13 Q. All right. Do you recall whether or not any of your --
- 14 okay.
- 15 MR. KING: Your Honor, I have RP 70 through RP 2351.
- 16 I'm handing these to Mr. Wilmot.
- 17 MR. LOMAS: Your Honor, we object.
- MR. KING: May I approach the witness, Your Honor? 18
- THE COURT: Before you do, I will hear the objection. 19
- 20 Mr. Lomas?
- 21 MR. LOMAS: Thank you, Your Honor. At the status
- 22 conference on January 31st, we narrowed this, for purposes of
- 23 today, to two invoices. And what Mr. King is about to hand the
- 24 witness is hundreds of invoices.
- 25 THE COURT: Thank you, Mr. Lomas. I believe your

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statement, just so we have a clear record -- Mr. King, you
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      indicated that the stack begins with RP 00 -- what is the first
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      number?
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               MR. KING: 70, Your Honor.
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               THE COURT: -- 70 through RP 02, and then a three-digit
 6
      number. In other words --
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               MR. KING: That's right, 2351.
               THE COURT: And are those consecutive pages in between
 8
      70 and 2361?
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               MR. KING: More or less, Your Honor.
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               THE COURT: And can we describe the stack as a stack
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      that is perhaps a little less than a foot tall?
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               MR. KING: Yes, Your Honor.
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               THE COURT: Now, what is your response to Mr. Lomas'
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      contention that when we were last in court the Court ordered
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      that at issue here -- the invoice at issue would be confined
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      to -- invoices at issue are confined to two?
               MR. KING: Well, Your Honor, I understood that the
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      issue was whether or not these other invoices are going to be
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      admitted into evidence. And we agreed that the two invoices to
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      be admitted into evidence were the two that were specific to
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      Mr. Burke's work.
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               These invoices are not intended to be entered into
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      evidence; the invoices are simply going to be offered to
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      Mr. Wilmot while he's testifying, to help him refresh his memory
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as to whether or not any of the charges -- any of the invoices that Record Press submitted pursuant to this contract were for an amount of copies less than 10. THE COURT: Well, because Mr. Wilmot has not indicated that his recollection is exhausted, the Court will not permit you to show him the stack of invoices for the purpose of refreshing his recollection. MR. KING: Well then, Your Honor, I would suggest that the invoices be presented to impeach the witness because they contradict his testimony. It's a very essential fact to this case of whether or not there's ever an invoice for less than 10 copies. THE COURT: Well, the witness has not indicated that his recollection is exhausted, so you may proceed with the question. And indeed, there was no objection to the question, as I recall. BY MR. KING: Q. Mr. Wilmot, would you be surprised if the thousands of invoices that are sitting on the table here all are for an amount of copies greater than 10? MR. LOMAS: Objection, Your Honor, to the relevance of the question. MR. KING: May I respond, Your Honor? THE COURT: What is your response to the relevance

objection, Mr. King?

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MR. KING: This fact of whether or not any of the invoices have a request for an amount of copies less than 10 is an essential fact related to whether or not the contract that calls for the running rate of 10 would imply that the running rate applies to these invoices. And now the idea is that somehow the running rate does not apply to one of these line items. But the fact is that if the running rate, as Mr. Wilmot testified to, is used for a particular quantity of copies, and if every single invoice is for a number of copies greater than 10, then it's very important for the evidence and for the testimony to reflect that fact. THE COURT: The Court will sustain the objection. It may be that at some later point there will be some relevance to the question. At this time it is not relevant, given the most recent orders that the Court entered with respect to the issues in the case and the evidence which would be admitted. So I will suggest that you turn your attention to the questions regarding the two invoices which are plainly admissible. MR. KING: Okay. BY MR. KING: Q. Let's move to the invoices. Mr. Wilmot, I'm marking Plaintiff's Exhibit C.

MR. KING: Your Honor, may I approach the witness?

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               THE COURT: Yes.
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      BY MR. KING:
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      Q. Mr. Wilmot, I'm handing you Exhibit C. Thank you.
               MR. KING: Would the parties stipulate to the
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 5
      admissibility of Plaintiff's Exhibit C?
 6
               MR. LOMAS: Yes, Your Honor.
 7
               THE COURT: Thank you, Mr. Lomas. Plaintiff's
 8
      Exhibit C will be admitted without objection.
 9
                (PLAINTIFF EXHIBIT Number C was moved into evidence.)
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      BY MR. KING:
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      Q. Mr. Wilmot, if you look at the first line item of this
12
      invoice -- could you just state for the record the invoice
13
      number on this document?
14
      A. Record Press invoice number A 71700.
15
      Q. And under the description of this invoice, how would -- do
16
      you recognize what this invoice was for?
17
      A. Yes, I do.
18
      Q. And what was it for?
19
      A. This invoice was for the production of 40 copies of a
20
      defendant appellee's brief in the Burke v. Evans matter.
21
      Q. Just to be clear, does the invoice not say that it's for
22
      20 copies?
23
      A. No, it does not.
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               MR. KING: Your Honor, do you have 71700 or 71701?
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               THE COURT: What I have is A 71701. That is what you
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      handed to Ms. Miller.
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               MR. LOMAS: Excuse me, Your Honor. I believe the
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      witness has a different one. The stipulation was on the
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      assumption that we have a copy of what the witness was handed,
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      but I don't believe that's been the case. I believe we need to
 6
      fix that.
 7
               MR. KING: Yes, Your Honor, I believe I handed the
 8
      witness the next invoice. So if I could just take a look at
 9
      what I handed the witness?
10
               THE COURT: Of course.
11
               MR. KING: Thank you.
12
               All right. I'm removing the label for Plaintiff's
13
      Exhibit C -- or actually, I'm marking it out with my pen here,
14
      and then I'm handing Mr. Wilmot another document marked
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      Plaintiff's Exhibit C, which is 71701, which is the document
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      that Your Honor is holding, also marked as Plaintiff's
17
      Exhibit C.
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               THE COURT: Very well, thank you. Is that what you
19
      have, Mr. Lomas, 71701?
20
               MR. LOMAS: That's right, yes, Your Honor. Thank you.
21
               THE COURT: Very well. Thank you. With the
22
      substitution, Mr. Lomas and Mr. O'Brien, may the exhibit still
23
      be admitted without objection?
24
               MR. LOMAS: Yes, Your Honor.
25
               THE COURT: Very well.
```

-29

1 BY MR. KING: 2 Q. Following along on your description of the 40 copies, do you 3 see there the first line item, can you describe what this line 4 item refers to? 5 A. The first line item is the typeset cover charge at \$10 per 6 page. 7 Q. And does that correspond to a line item in the contract? 8 THE COURT: Before that question is answered, I will note that the copy that I have refers to printing and binding of 9 10 20 copies. Did you indicate in your question, Mr. King, that 11 the invoice was for 40 copies? 12 MR. KING: I'm sorry, Your Honor. Do you have 71701? THE COURT: I do. But I note that under description, 13 14 the third -- I'm reluctant to say line, because I realize that

BY MR. KING: 18

15

16

17

- Q. And Mr. Wilmot, your copy also says that? 19
- A. My copy reads, "For printing and binding 20 copies of the 20 21 above appendix for defendant appellees."

has some significance for the evidence in the case. But I'm

and binding 20 copies of the above appendix," closed quote.

using the word "line" loosely. Mine reads, quote, "For printing

- 22 Q. And you're looking at invoice A 71701?
- 23 A. That is correct.
- 24 I am now looking at 71701 as well, and I do show 20 copies. Q.
- 25 THE COURT: Very well. I believe in your question you

```
said 40.
 1
 2
               MR. KING: I did. And I misspoke, Your Honor.
 3
               THE COURT: Very well. Thank you.
 4
               MR. KING: Thank you, Your Honor.
 5
      BY MR. KING:
 6
      Q. Does that line item number one correspond to a line item in
 7
      the contract, Mr. Wilmot?
 8
               MR. LOMAS: Objection. Vague with respect to the line
 9
      item one.
10
               THE COURT: Just so the record is clear, would you mind
11
      reading, Mr. King, the item to which you refer?
               MR. KING: When I refer to line item one in the
12
13
      invoice, I'm referring to the typeset cover at $10 per page.
14
      BY MR. KING:
15
      Q. Does that correspond to a line item in the contract?
16
      A. Yes, it does.
17
      Q. And which line item in the contract does it refer to?
18
      A. On RP 66, Roman numeral I, item A 2.
      Q. And did you apply the running rate to -- on the invoice, did
19
      you apply the running rate to this line item for typeset cover
20
21
      at $10 per page?
22
               MR. LOMAS: Objection. Vague with respect to "running
23
      rate."
24
               THE COURT: May I ask you to rephrase your question,
25
      please, Mr. King?
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-31

```
1
      BY MR. KING:
 2
      Q. Mr. Wilmot, did you apply the running rate that's indicated
 3
      in the Plaintiff's Exhibit A to the line item typeset cover at
 4
      $10 per page in the invoice?
 5
      A. That's not applied.
 6
      Q. I'm sorry?
 7
      A. No, that's not applied.
 8
      Q. It's not applied.
 9
               Going on to the next line item, "pages text times
10
      one proof copy at $0.25 per page," what does this charge refer
11
      to?
12
      A. This charge is indicated on RP 66 as page proofs per page at
13
      $0.25.
14
      Q. Mr. Wilmot, does this -- then your testimony is that this
15
      line item, "Pages text times one proof copy at $0.25 per page,"
16
      corresponds to a line item in Plaintiff's Exhibit A, and that
      line item is Roman numeral IIA?
17
18
               MR. LOMAS: Objection, Your Honor. I believe that
19
      mischaracterizes the testimony.
               THE COURT: Sustained.
20
      BY MR. KING:
21
22
      Q. Mr. Wilmot, does this line item, "Pages text times one proof
23
      copy at $0.25 per page," correspond to a line item in
24
      Plaintiff's Exhibit A, the contract?
25
      A. Yes, it does.
```

- Q. And which line item does it correspond to? 1
- 2 A. On RP 66, Roman numeral I, item E.
- 3 Q. Going down to the next line item, "Covers printed at \$0.60
- 4 per cover," what is involved in this particular line item?
- 5 MR. LOMAS: Objection. Vaque.
- 6 THE COURT: Is your question, Mr. King, to which entry
- 7 in the contract it corresponds? That appeared to be the form of
- 8 the question regarding the first two items. Or was your
- question different? 9
- 10 MR. KING: No, Your Honor, the question is the same.
- 11 BY MR. KING:
- 12 Q. Does this line item correspond to a line item in Plaintiff's
- 13 Exhibit A?
- 14 A. Yes, it does.
- 15 Q. And what line item does it refer to?
- 16 A. RP 67, Roman numeral II, line item A, II(A).
- 17 Q. Does the invoice apply the running rate to this particular
- line item, "Covers printed at \$0.60 per cover"? 18
- 19 A. Your question again?
- Q. Does the invoice apply the running rate? 20
- 21 A. The invoice applies the running rate to this particular line
- 22 item, yes.
- 23 Q. Going to the next line, "Page numbers inserted in table of
- 24 contents" at \$0.25, what line item in the contract does this
- 25 line item in the invoice refer to?

-33

- A. This line item is referenced on RP 66, Roman numeral I, 1
- 2 item G.
- Q. G. And is the running rate applied to this line item? 3
- 4 A. It does not.
- 5 Q. Moving on to the next line item in the invoice, "566 pages 6 text printed times 20 copies at .035 per page."
- 7 What line item in the contract does this line item in the invoice refer to? 8
- A. This item is referenced on RP 67, Roman numeral II, item B. 9
- 10 Q. Is the running rate applied to this line item in the
- 11 invoice?
- 12 A. Yes, the running rate is applied to this line item.
- 13 Q. Going on to the next line, "Collating, trimming to size, and
- 14 binding charge, 11,320 pages at \$12.25 per 100 pages," what line
- 15 item in the contract does this line item in the invoice refer
- 16 to?
- 17 A. This line item is referenced on RP 67, item II(D).
- Q. Does the invoice apply the running rate to this line item? 18
- 19 A. No, it does not.
- Q. The next line, "Text page at \$10 per page," what line item 20
- 21 in the contract does this line item in the invoice refer to?
- 22 A. This is referenced on RP 66, Roman numeral I, item B.
- 23 Q. And is the running rate applied to this line item in the
- 24 invoice?
- 25 A. No, it does not.

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Q. Mr. Wilmot, am I characterizing your testimony correct, that of all of the line items in this invoice that correspond to a line item under Roman numeral I of the contract, that Record Press does not apply the running rate? A. That's correct. Q. Is it also correct that, under Roman numeral II of the contract, Record Press charges the running rate for some line items, but doesn't charge it for line item D as reflected in the invoice? A. I'm sorry, could you rephrase your question? Q. Based on the testimony that you gave, doesn't your testimony reflect the fact that with respect to the charges arising from Roman numeral II in the contract, Record Press charges the running rate for all line items, but then does not charge the running rate for D? MR. LOMAS: Objection. I think that mischaracterizes the testimony with respect to "all." It was unclear -- and it's also vague with respect to "all." BY MR. KING: Q. All right. Let me try one more time. Mr. Wilmot, your testimony that you just gave regarding the charges in the invoice, does your testimony reflect the fact that, with respect to the charges arising from Roman numeral number II in the contract, Record Press' invoices charge the running rate for some line items, but then do not charge the running rate for

- 1 line item D?
- 2 A. Consistent with Record Press' invoice, Record Press charges
- 3 the running rate for line items "Complete cover" and "Text per
- 4 page," which is on RP 67, Roman numeral II, A and B, items A and
- 5
- 6 Q. Mr. Wilmot, does Record Press charge the running rate for
- 7 all of the line items in Roman numeral number II?
- A. No, it does not. 8
- Q. Does Record Press follow that pattern of not charging the 9
- 10 running rate to Roman numeral II(D) for all of its invoices?
- 11 A. That's correct.
- 12 Q. Mr. Wilmot, you testified earlier that Record Press will
- 13 perform work for invoices on jobs that are less than 10 copies.
- 14 Is this one of those jobs? How many copies are invoiced on this
- 15 job?
- 16 MR. LOMAS: Object to the preface of the things that
- 17 mischaracterize his prior testimony.
- THE COURT: Well, as phrased, the question is compound 18
- 19 because there was a question, which was not answered, and a
- 20 second one was asked. So let me ask you to ask a single
- 21 question, Mr. King.
- 22 MR. KING: Okay.
- BY MR. KING: 23
- 24 Q. How many copies does the invoice charge for?
- 25 A. Referencing Record Press' invoice A 71701, the description

```
in this invoice charges for 20 copies of an appendix for
 1
 2
      defendant appellees in the Burke v. Evans matter.
 3
      Q. So how would you apply the running rate of per-10 copies to
 4
      this invoice?
 5
               MR. LOMAS: Objection. Vague.
               THE COURT: Are you able to answer the question,
 6
 7
      Mr. Wilmot?
               THE WITNESS: If asked again.
 8
 9
               THE COURT: Could you repeat your question, please,
10
      Mr. King.
11
      BY MR. KING:
12
      Q. Given an invoice that charges for 20 copies, and a running
13
      rate that provides for per-10 copies, how would you apply the
14
      running rate to this particular invoice?
15
               MR. LOMAS: Objection. Vague, with respect to...
16
               THE COURT: Are you able to answer the question,
      Mr. Wilmot?
17
18
               THE WITNESS: Yes, I am.
               THE COURT: Very well. The objection is overruled.
19
20
      A. This invoice is billed consistently with the contract.
      BY MR. KING:
21
22
      Q. Well, Mr. Wilmot, my question was how you apply the running
23
      rate of per-10 copies to a job that requires 20 copies to be
24
      made.
```

A. For the line items requiring 10 copies, in this particular

```
case covers and text per page, the price is adjusted accordingly
 1
 2
      for a running rate of 10 copies.
 3
               In this instance, the cover is adjusted to be for $0.60
 4
      as an item price; for text per page, with a quantity of 11,320
 5
      in total of a 560-page document, the price is adjusted to be
 6
      .035, which represents an adjustment for the running rate of
 7
      10 copies.
 8
      Q. Let's go to the next invoice. Mr. Wilmot, I'm marking a
 9
      document Plaintiff's Exhibit D.
10
               MR. KING: May I approach the witness, Your Honor?
11
               THE COURT: You may.
12
      BY MR. KING:
13
      Q. Mr. Wilmot, do you recognize this document?
14
      A. Yes, I do.
15
      Q. And what invoice does this refer to?
16
      A. This document is Record Press' invoice A 71700.
17
               MR. KING: Do you stipulate to its admission?
               MR. LOMAS: Yes. Your Honor, we stipulate to the
18
19
      admission of this exhibit.
20
               THE COURT: Thank you, Mr. Lomas. Plaintiff's
21
      Exhibit D, the invoice A 71700, will be admitted without
22
      objection.
23
                (PLAINTIFF EXHIBIT D was moved into evidence.)
24
      BY MR. KING:
25
      Q. Generally speaking, Mr. Wilmot, how do you describe the work
```

- that this invoice refers to, the particular job, if you will? 1
- 2 A. This invoice is for printing and binding 40 copies of the
- 3 above brief for the defendant appellees in the Burke v. Evans
- 4 matter, as noted.
- 5 Q. If you go to the first line item of this invoice, which is
- 6 "Typeset cover at \$10 per page," does that correspond, like the
- 7 other invoice, to line item, in the contract, Roman numeral I,
- 8 A2?
- 9 A. No, it does not.
- 10 Q. It does not. What line item in the contract does this line
- 11 item in the invoice, "Typeset cover at \$10 per page," refer to?
- 12 A. Referencing RP 66, Roman numeral I, line item A1.
- 13 Q. A1. Thank you.
- 14 And does the invoice apply the running rate to this
- 15 line item?
- 16 A. No, it does not.
- Q. Moving on to the next line item, "Covers printed at \$0.60 17
- per cover," what line item in the contract does this line item 18
- in the invoice refer to? 19
- A. Referencing RP 67, Roman numeral II, item A. 20
- 21 Q. And does the invoice charge the running rate for this line
- 22 item?
- 23 A. Consistent with the contract, it does.
- 24 Q. The next line item, "76 pages text printed at 40 copies"
- 25 at .035 per page on the invoice, what line item from the

- contract does that refer to? 1
- 2 A. Referencing RP 67, Roman numeral II, item B.
- Q. Does the invoice apply the running rate to this line item? 3
- 4 A. Yes, it does.
- 5 Q. The next line item, "Collating, trimming to size, and
- 6 binding," charge 3,040 pages at \$12.25 per 100 pages.
- 7 What line item in the contract does this line item
- refer to? 8
- A. Referencing RP 67, Roman numeral II, line item D, as in 9
- 10 David.
- 11 Q. Does the invoice charge the running rate for this line item?
- 12 A. No, it does not.
- 13 Q. Then again, your testimony is that the invoice does not
- 14 charge the running rate for line items in the contract that fall
- 15 under Roman numeral I?
- 16 A. That is correct.
- Q. And now with respect to Roman numeral II of the contract, 17
- Record Press charges the running rate for II(A) and B, but does 18
- not charge the running rate for II(D)? 19
- A. That is correct. 20
- 21 Q. Mr. Wilmot, why doesn't Record Press charge the running rate
- 22 for D, but does charge it for all the other line items under II?
- 23 MR. LOMAS: Objection. There's an assumption there
- 24 that no foundation has been laid for.
- 25 THE COURT: The objection is overruled.

- 1 A. Can you please re-ask the question?
- 2 BY MR. KING:
- 3 Q. Yes. Why does Record Press not charge the running rate for

- 4 D, but does charge it for all the other line items under II?
- 5 A. With respect to the contract, referencing page RP 67, it's
- clearly written there, "Per 100 pages." In addition to that, 6
- 7 RP 69 lists clearly what is required in the bidding process as
- to what rate is to be applied for the line items. 8
- Q. You're referring to the GPO spreadsheet? 9
- 10 A. RP 69, that's correct, yes.
- 11 Q. Well, if we're going to be looking at Record Press 69, the
- 12 GPO spreadsheet, can I draw your attention to the column for
- 13 "Basis of award"? What does "basis of award" refer to?
- 14 A. The basis of award is a quantity issued by the GPO as an
- 15 indication of what they will use in their internal accounting to
- 16 determine who the winner of the contract is.
- 17 Q. Okay. And if you look under the column for "Record Press,"
- you see that the corresponding number for Record Press for that 18
- particular line item, II(D), is what? 19
- 20 A. Referencing that column on the unit rate for II(D), I read
- 21 \$12.
- 22 Q. All right. Now if you go to the column for the cost under
- 23 "Record Press," and you follow it down to that line item for
- 24 II(D), what is your cost?
- 25 A. The cost is \$168.

- 1 Q. All right. Now if you go back to -- stay in the same column 2 under "Record Press," and go to the line item for II(B). What 3 is the cost there? 4 A. Reading text per page per 10 copies, the cost here is 5 \$49,798.80. 6 Q. Okay. Mr. Wilmot, would you agree that \$168 is a much 7 smaller number than \$49,798.80?
- 8 A. Yes.
- Q. Yes. If you go back to Plaintiff's Exhibit D, which is your 9 10 invoice, and you look at the corresponding charges, would you
- 11 agree that the line item II(D) is now a much greater number than
- 12 line item II(B)? In the invoice, the number corresponding to
- 13 line item II(D) is what for the amount?
- 14 A. II(D), okay, on this invoice is \$372.40.
- 15 Q. And the line item referring to II(B), that amount is what?
- 16 A. Referencing RP 69 on the spreadsheet?
- 17 Q. No, the invoice. Stay on the invoice, please.
- A. Okay. \$106.40. 18
- Q. Now, isn't it fair to say that the line item II(D) in the 19
- 20 invoice is much greater than line item II(B) in the invoice?
- 21 MR. LOMAS: Objection. Vague and argumentative.
- 22 THE COURT: Sustained.
- 23 BY MR. KING:
- 24 Q. Mr. Wilmot, can you compare the -- okay. Under
- 25 Record Press 69, the amount for Record Press that corresponds to

```
1
      line item II(D) is greater than or less than the amount for
 2
      II(B)?
 3
      A. The invoice is less than what's listed in RP 69.
 4
      Q. No, Mr. Wilmot. My question is -- just look at RP 69.
 5
      A. Okay.
 6
      Q. The line item for II(D) corresponding to Record Press is
 7
      less than or greater than II(B)?
 8
      A. II(D) is less than II(B).
      Q. Okay. Now if you look in the invoice, line item II(D). Is
 9
10
      it also less than II(B), or is it greater than II(B)?
11
      A. Okay. Text per page here is -- $106.40 is less than
12
      $372.40, collating.
13
      Q. So Mr. Wilmot, your testimony, then, is that -- well, first
14
      of all, you said that you looked at this spreadsheet before you
15
      made this contract with GPO?
16
      A. That's correct.
17
               MR. KING: One moment, Your Honor.
               THE COURT: Certainly.
18
               MR. KING: Your Honor, may I approach the witness?
19
20
               THE COURT: Yes.
21
      BY MR. KING:
22
      Q. Mr. Wilmot, I'm handing you Plaintiff's Exhibit B.
23
      Mr. Wilmot, do you recognize this document?
24
               MR. LOMAS: We object to the relevance of this
```

document. This appears to be a contract for 1272 S, and the

```
claim in the complaint is based solely on the contract that
 1
 2
      we've been speaking about earlier, program 2231 S.
 3
               THE COURT: In other words, this is for a different
 4
      contract other than the contract which governs the two invoices?
 5
      Is that your objection?
 6
               MR. LOMAS: Yes, Your Honor. That's right.
 7
               THE COURT: Mr. King?
               MR. KING: Your Honor, as I argued before, the action
 8
      at issue in this case is not one particular contract. The
 9
10
      action has to do with an unlawful billing practice, which is the
11
      failure to apply the running rate to this particular line item
12
      in the contract. And the contract that's marked as Plaintiff's
13
      Exhibit B is the predecessor contract to Plaintiff's Exhibit A.
14
      It is in fact identical, and Mr. Wilmot can certainly testify to
15
      its authenticity.
16
               THE COURT: The Court will not permit the use of
17
      Exhibit B, since it is the case that Exhibit A, which has
      already been admitted into evidence, is the contract which
18
19
      governs the two invoices which are at issue. So I will ask you
      to retrieve Exhibit B, please.
20
21
               If this is a convenient time for the parties to take a
22
      brief recess, perhaps we can take a 10-minute recess now, and
23
      then continue until we break for lunch.
24
               MR. KING: Thank you, Your Honor.
25
               THE COURT: Very well. I will ask you to step down,
```

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Mr. Wilmot. You have not completed your testimony, you remain
under oath, and you may not discuss either the testimony you've
already given or any anticipated testimony with anyone:
Counsel, the parties, anyone else.
         THE WITNESS: Thank you, Your Honor.
         THE COURT: Very well. Thank you, and we'll resume in
about 10 minutes.
         (Recess taken at 11:26 a.m.).
         THE COURT: Now, Mr. Wilmot, I'll ask you to please
return to your seat on the witness stand.
         Thank you. Mr. King, you may continue.
        MR. KING: Thank you, Your Honor.
         Your Honor, if I could just address the decision to
withdraw Plaintiff's Exhibit B, which was the contract for
1272 S. If you would note on the spreadsheet, the GPO
spreadsheet that Mr. Wilmot testified to that he reviewed in
entering into the contract, 2231 S, that's RP 69.
         If you go to the top of RP 69, you'll see that the
spreadsheet refers to program number 1272 S. So the testimony
of Mr. Wilmot, you know, the contract of 2231, you know, it
pulls this program, 1272 S, directly into this case.
         THE COURT: The Court has already ruled that Exhibit B
is not relevant. The matter is confined to the two invoices
which are governed by A, which has already been admitted without
```

objection, and the Court has so ruled.

```
1
               So I will ask you to continue your inquiry, please.
 2
      BY MR. KING:
 3
         Thank you again for your testimony, Mr. Wilmot.
 4
               So to continue on, let's just wrap up here. To
 5
      reiterate your testimony, you testified earlier that you believe
 6
      that Record Press did run -- did perform runs of copies of less
      than 10 copies. You testified to that. Correct?
 7
 8
               MR. LOMAS: Objection.
               THE COURT: On what ground?
 9
10
               MR. LOMAS: Argumentative and relevance.
11
               THE COURT: Sustained.
12
               MR. KING: I'm sorry, the number of copies in the
13
      invoices are not relevant? Is that what the basis of the
14
      argument is?
15
               THE COURT: The Court understands the relevance
16
      objection to be that the invoices here are for either
17
      20 copies - that is, invoice A 71701 - or 40 copies in A 71700.
18
               MR. KING: Okay.
               THE COURT: Therefore, whether other invoices were for
19
20
      other amounts is simply not relevant.
21
               MR. KING: Okay.
22
      BY MR. KING:
23
      Q. And Mr. Wilmot, you testified that the invoice charges the
24
      running rate for line items II(A) and II(B) from the contracts.
25
      Correct?
```

Filed: 01/07/2015

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1
               THE COURT: Are you referring to both invoices?
 2
               MR. KING: Both invoices, yes.
 3
      A. Yes, the invoices are consistent with the billing of II(A)
 4
      and II(B).
 5
      BY MR. KING:
 6
      Q. And the invoices, both invoices, they do not charge the
 7
      running rate for line item II(D)?
      A. Correct. Consistent with the contract, it does not.
 8
      Q. And that line item II(D), what are the words that describe
 9
10
      that line item again?
11
      A. Reading from RP 67, item II(D) reads, "Collating, trimming
12
      to size, and binding per 100 pages, $12.25."
13
      Q. Okay. And Mr. Wilmot, again, could you repeat your
14
      testimony as to why Record Press does not charge the running
15
      rate for collating, trimming to size, and binding, but does so
16
      for A and B?
17
      A. Sure. As listed in item II(D) on RP 67, it reads,
18
      "Collating, trimming to size, and binding per 100 pages." In
      addition to that, RP 69 clearly indicates "Collating, trimming
19
      to size, and binding per 100 page."
20
21
      Q. Mr. Wilmot, drawing your attention to RP 69, the numbers
22
      that appear in those various cells, do they have any meaning to
23
      you?
24
      A. As I testified before, the numbers reflect an internal
25
      quantity listed by the GPO to determine -- to level the playing
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Filed: 01/07/2015

MR. KING: Thank you, Mr. Wilmot.

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1
               Thank you, Your Honor. No more questions.
 2
               THE COURT: Very well. Thank you very much, Mr. King.
 3
               Mr. Lomas or Mr. O'Brien? Mr. Lomas, you may
 4
      cross-examine.
 5
               MR. LOMAS: Thank you, Your Honor.
 6
                              CROSS EXAMINATION
 7
      BY MR. LOMAS:
 8
         Good morning, Mr. Wilmot.
      A. Good morning.
 9
10
      Q. You said earlier you were the president of Record Press?
11
      A. That's correct.
12
      Q. How long has Record Press been in business?
13
      A. Record Press has been in business since 1945.
14
      Q. And generally what type of business is Record Press in?
15
      A. Record Press is an appellate printer; a financial and
16
      commercial printer as well.
17
      Q. So what does the appellate printing entail?
      A. The appellate printing entails -- we're often engaged by law
18
19
      firms, solo practitioners, or interested parties with items that
      are on appeal. We have a staff of six paralegals and attorneys,
20
21
      and it's their job to interpret the guidelines of a particular
22
      appellate court, and as such perfect the record and file --
23
      serve and file a particular case.
24
      Q. And who does Record Press do that work for?
25
      A. It could be law firms, it could be the government, solo
```

- 1 practitioners, just any appellate...
- 2 Q. And the work that is done with the government, who is that
- 3 contracted through?
- 4 A. The Government Printing Office, GPO.
- 5 Q. And how long has Record Press been contracting with the
- 6 Government Printing Office?
- 7 A. Over 30 years.
- 8 Q. Is Record Press still contracting with the Government
- 9 Printing Office?
- 10 A. Yes, we do.
- 11 Q. Mr. Wilmot, I would like to refer you back to what was
- 12 marked as Plaintiff's Exhibit A. And this was the contract,
- 13 Record Press' contract with the GPO for program 2231 S. Is that
- 14 right?
- A. That's correct. 15
- 16 Q. Now, how was this contract formed?
- 17 A. A request for bid is sent out by the GPO. It arrives via
- U.S. mail, and it is then reviewed and prepared for submission. 18
- Q. So was this the request for bid, and then Record Press 19
- filled it out? 20
- 21 A. That's correct.
- 22 Q. And was there anything sent with the request for bid?
- 23 A. Not in this case, other than what was required to be filled
- 24 out.
- 25 Q. And did Record Press fill out price terms in the request for

- 1 bid?
- 2 A. That's correct.
- 3 Q. And if you flip to the last page that's marked with
- 4 production number RP 69, so RP 69 of Plaintiff's Exhibit A.
- 5 A. That's correct.
- 6 Q. You spoke about this spreadsheet earlier with Mr. King?
- 7 A. Yes.
- Q. Was this part of the request for bid? 8
- A. This constitutes the entire package, yes. 9
- 10 Q. When you say "this constitutes," you're talking about
- Plaintiff's Exhibit A? 11
- A. Correct. 12
- 13 Q. So this spreadsheet here was part of that package?
- 14 A. Stapled as a part of the package.
- 15 Q. So did Record Press have this spreadsheet then, before it
- 16 filled out the price terms?
- 17 A. That's correct.
- Q. Now, on the left column here there looks to be line items. 18
- On the left column of RP 69 of Plaintiff's Exhibit A, there's a 19
- list of line items. Is that what those are? 20
- A. Yes. 21
- 22 Q. And are those line items in the request for bid itself?
- 23 A. Yes.
- 24 Q. Now, if we can focus maybe attention on the part that's just
- 25 under column II, or Roman numeral II, some of these line items

<del>-</del>51

- 1 that you were discussing with Mr. King.
- 2 Now, could you explain what this shows with respect to
- 3 these line items?
- 4 A. Okay.
- 5 Q. Well, actually, let me refer you to II(A) for a moment, the
- 6 line item that says, "Complete cover." What does the "per
- 7 10 copies" mean with respect to "complete cover"?
- A. Okay. Essentially, we will be charging a per-10-copy rate 8
- to that line item. 9
- 10 Q. And then what does the per 10 copies mean for what's marked
- 11 as Roman numeral II(B), the text per page line item?
- 12 A. We would be charging a per-10-copy rate for that particular
- 13 line item.
- 14 Q. And then for the pressure-sensitive stock, II(C), and then
- 15 there's a Roman numeral I for white pressure-sensitive stock.
- 16 Is that right?
- 17 A. That's correct.
- Q. What does the "per 100 leaves" mean for that line item? 18
- 19 A. Our billing charge should reflect a charge of per
- 100 leaves. 20
- 21 Q. And is that the same for the "Color" line item, which also
- 22 says, "per 100 leaves"?
- 23 A. That is correct.
- 24 Q. Then what about with respect to line item II(D), which says,
- 25 "Collating, trimming to size, and binding per 100 page"?

- 1 A. We would be charging a rate consistent with per 100 page.
- 2 Q. So did Record Press review this portion of the spreadsheet
- 3 before it filled out its bid for this program?
- 4 A. Absolutely and always.
- 5 Q. Okay. And let me refer -- actually, if we go back to the
- 6 spreadsheet itself, the whole spreadsheet. The numbers that are
- in the spreadsheet, those aren't the numbers that Record Press 7
- 8 bid this time for this contract. Is that right? These are
- older price numbers. Is that right? 9
- 10 A. That's correct.
- 11 Q. Now, if we can go back to what's marked as RP -- production
- 12 number RP 67 of Plaintiff's Exhibit A. Now, on the screen it
- 13 may help you, but we can blow up the line item. Oh, it's not
- 14 working. Okay.
- 15 If you could look under Roman numeral II, "Complete
- 16 product," and line D, "Collating, trimming to size, and
- 17 binding," do you see that line item?
- 18 A. Yes, I do.
- 19 Q. And what price did Record Press bid when it submitted its
- bid to the GPO for this line item? 20
- 21 A. \$12.25.
- 22 Q. What rate is that based on?
- 23 A. Per 100 pages.
- 24 Q. When Record Press submitted its bid for this line item, was
- 25 there a 10-copy running rate included in that price bid?

- 1 Α. No.
- 2 Q. The 10-copy running rate doesn't apply to Record Press' bid?
- 3 A. That's correct.
- 4 Q. Now, could you please describe what type of work the
- 5 collating, trimming to size, and binding line item refers to?
- 6 A. Collating, trimming to size, and binding involves
- 7 programming from the Xerox operator, to program the number of
- 8 copies and print them in a fashion that a voluminous record, for
- instance, or appendix is collated and ready to be passed on to 9
- 10 the next department.
- 11 That next department could be the bindery, and so the
- 12 trimming that's involved there is cutting to size based on the
- 13 guidelines of that particular appellate court.
- 14 In addition to that, it is then moved on to the perfect
- 15 bindery department, and their job is to wrap a cover around the
- 16 printed matter and perfect bind it. It then goes back to the
- 17 trimming department for actual shaving, and it is then passed on
- 18 to packing.
- Q. Now, did Record Press -- or excuse me, did the Government 19
- 20 Printing Office award this contract to Record Press?
- 21 A. Yes, it did.
- 22 Q. So in that process, did the GPO accept this bid that we see
- 23 here in this Plaintiff's Exhibit A?
- 24 A. That's correct.
- 25 Q. And did the GPO accept Record Press' bid for collating,

- 1 trimming to size, and binding, with a price of \$12.25 per
- 2 100 pages?
- 3 A. Yes, they did.
- 4 Q. Did Record Press provide appellate brief printing services
- 5 for the GPO under this contract?
- A. Yes, it did. 6
- 7 Q. How does Record Press get paid for the services that it
- 8 provides under this contract?
- 9 A. We submit two invoices, one to Washington and one to the
- 10 Philadelphia GPO offices, and it is paid out of Washington.
- 11 Q. So why does Record Press submit invoices to two different
- 12 GPO offices?
- 13 A. Checks and balances by the GPO.
- 14 Q. I want to refer you back to Plaintiff's Exhibit D. Do you
- have that in front of you? That was the invoice that's marked 15
- 16 A 71700. Do you see that?
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. Is this a Record Press invoice to the GPO?
- 19 A. Yes, it is.
- Q. And was this invoice issued to the GPO under the contract 20
- 21 that we've talked about, Plaintiff's Exhibit A?
- A. That's correct. 22
- 23 Q. Did Record Press charge for collating, trimming to size, and
- 24 binding in this invoice?
- 25 A. Yes, it did.

- 1 Q. And what was the amount -- what was the total amount that
- 2 Record Press charged for collating, trimming to size, and
- 3 binding?
- A. \$372.40. 4
- 5 Q. And how did Record Press determine that \$372.40 was the
- 6 amount to charge?
- 7 A. Essentially, based on 3,040 pages, times a rate of \$12.25
- 8 per 100 pages.
- 9 Q. And is that rate the contract price?
- 10 A. Yes, it is.
- 11 Q. Did the GPO accept this invoice and pay it?
- 12 A. Yes. It is indicated as such, paid.
- 13 Q. So I want to refer you then back to Plaintiff's Exhibit C.
- 14 Does the invoice that I think is identified A 71701, do you see
- 15 that one?
- 16 A. Yes, I do.
- Q. Is this a Record Press invoice to the GPO? 17
- 18 A. This is a Record Press invoice.
- Q. Was this invoice -- excuse me, did Record Press invoice 19
- 20 this -- sorry. Issue this invoice to the GPO pursuant to the
- 21 contract that's Plaintiff's Exhibit A?
- 22 A. Yes, it did.
- 23 Q. Did Record Press charge for collating, trimming to size, and
- 24 binding in this invoice?
- 25 A. Yes, it did.

- 1 Q. And what was the amount that Record Press charged?
- 2 A. \$1,386.70.
- 3 Q. And how did Record Press determine that amount?
- 4 A. Based on 11,320 pages, at a rate of \$12.25 per 100 pages,
- 5 that price was determined.
- 6 | Q. Was that price of \$12.25 per 100 pages the contract price?
- 7 A. Yes, that's consistent with the contract.
- 8 Q. Did the GPO accept this invoice and pay it?
- 9 A. Yes, and indicated as such.
- 10 Q. On this particular invoice, if a per-10-copy running rate
- 11 | would have applied to this line item, would that have changed
- 12 the amount that Record Press would have charged?
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. By how much?
- 15 A. The amount would have been reduced by 90 percent.
- Q. 90 percent. So if the amount for this line item had been
- 17 reduced by 90 percent, would Record Press be able to make money
- 18 on this invoice?
- 19 A. Unfortunately not.
- 20 Q. I want to refer you back to Plaintiff's Exhibit A if you
- 21 could for a moment, Mr. Wilmot, and the production page number
- 22 RP 54. It's back toward the front.
- 23 A. (Witness complies.)
- Q. Are you there?
- 25 A. Yes, I am.

- 1 Q. Does this page of the contract state what the term of this
- 2 contract is?
- 3 A. Yes, it does.
- Q. And what was the term of this contract? 4
- 5 A. A base year and four option years.
- 6 Q. And so what was the base year? Is that the first date here,
- 7 November 1st, 2006 through October 31, 2007?
- 8 A. That's correct.
- 9 Q. And then the four additional years, what did you refer to
- 10 those as?
- 11 A. Option years.
- 12 Q. And so who has the option to renew those years?
- 13 A. The GPO.
- 14 O. Did the GPO renew Record Press' contract?
- 15 A. Yes. Twice.
- 16 Q. You're aware that Mr. Burke filed this case in 2008. Is
- 17 that right?
- 18 A. That's correct.
- 19 Q. And so did the GPO renew this contract since Mr. Burke filed
- this case? 20
- A. Yes. Twice. 21
- 22 Q. Is this contract still in force today?
- 23 A. Yes, it is.
- 24 Q. The GPO hasn't terminated it?
- 25 A. No, it has not.

- Q. Has the GPO ever suspended any payments on Record Press' 1
- 2 invoices under this contract?
- 3 A. No, it has not. Never.
- 4 Q. Is \$12.25 per 100 pages still the contract price for
- 5 trimming to size, collating, and binding?
- A. That's correct. 6
- 7 Q. Has the GPO ever instructed Record Press to apply a
- 8 per-10-copy running rate to that line item?
- 9 A. Never.
- 10 Q. Does Record Press still provide printing services under this
- 11 contract to the GPO?
- 12 A. Yes, it does.
- 13 Q. Does Record Press still charge \$12.25 per 100 pages?
- 14 A. Yes, it does.
- 15 Q. Does Record Press still issue those invoices reflecting that
- 16 to the GPO?
- 17 A. Yes, it does.
- 18 Q. And is that charge identified on the actual invoice for the
- 19 invoices?
- 20 A. Yes, it does.
- 21 Q. And does the GPO still pay those invoices?
- 22 A. Yes, they do.
- 23 Q. Has the GPO ever raised any issues with Record Press with
- 24 respect to this line item?
- 25 A. Never.

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Q. Has any other government agency ever raised any issues with
Record Press with respect to this line item?
A. Never.
         MR. LOMAS: Thank you. I have no further questions.
         THE COURT: Thank you, Mr. Lomas. Mr. King, do you
have redirect?
         MR. KING: No, Your Honor.
         THE COURT: Very well. Thank you very much.
         Mr. Wilmot, thank you. You may step down.
         THE WITNESS: Thank you, Your Honor.
         THE COURT: Now counsel, I will be guided by your
preferences. It is now 12:00 noon. We can recess now for lunch
and reconvene at 1:15; alternatively, if you would like to take
20 minutes or so to begin the testimony of the next witness, you
may do that and then we will recess at that point.
         What is your preference, Mr. King?
         MR. KING: We're going to ask to call Mr. Adgerson for
a short time.
         THE COURT: Very well. Is he in the witness room?
Would one of you please be so kind as to ask him to come in?
Thank you.
         MR. LOMAS: Your Honor, while we're waiting for
Mr. Adgerson, I just wanted to mention that AUSA Valdez is on
behalf of government witnesses, and he would like to step in the
well when Mr. Adgerson is on the stand.
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               THE COURT: You mean, at the table with counsel? Is
 2
      that without objection, Mr. King?
 3
               MR. KING: That's without objection.
 4
               THE COURT: Very well.
 5
               Good afternoon, Mr. Adgerson. I'll ask you to please
 6
      face the deputy clerk to be sworn, and then have a seat on the
 7
      witness stand.
 8
                   (Oath administered by Courtroom Deputy.)
 9
               THE COURT: Good afternoon.
10
               THE WITNESS: Good afternoon.
11
               THE COURT: Mr. King, you may proceed.
12
        (CALVIN ADGERSON, PLAINTIFF witness, having been duly sworn,
13
                            testified as follows:)
14
                             DIRECT EXAMINATION
15
      BY MR. KING:
16
      Q. Good afternoon, Mr. Adgerson.
17
      A. Good afternoon, Mr. King.
18
      Q. Thank you for your time today.
19
               Mr. Adgerson, were you employed with -- first of all,
      do you recall ever receiving a call from Mr. Burke, the
20
21
      plaintiff in this case?
22
      A. I do.
23
      Q. Okay. And were you employed with the GPO at that time?
24
      A. Yes, I was.
25
      Q. And what was your position at the GPO at that time?
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- I was the branch chief of the commercial billing section.
- 2 Q. Okay. I'm sorry, could you repeat that?
- A. I was the branch chief of the commercial billing and 3
- 4 examination section.
- 5 Commercial billing and examination section?
- 6 Yes. Α.
- 7 Q. And what was the role of that particular department?
- A. We were responsible for paying commercial printing invoices, 8
- and also processing non-printing invoices. 9
- 10 Q. And so what was your role at that department with respect to
- 11 that department's role?
- 12 A. I'm sorry, I didn't...
- 13 Q. You stated your position. My question is: What were you
- 14 required to do in that position at that department?
- 15 A. I was more of a managerial aspect. I was responsible for
- 16 making sure that the sections functioned properly. I had three
- 17 supervisors that were section chiefs that reported to me, but it
- was more from a management perspective as far as meetings, 18
- making sure that operations were functioning properly. 19
- 20 Q. Going back to the call from Mr. Burke. When you received
- 21 the call from Mr. Burke, what was the nature of Mr. Burke's
- 22 inquiry?
- 23 A. Mr. Burke had inquired about how we were processing our
- 24 invoices on the 2231 contract, whether we were processing them
- 25 correctly; specifically in regards to the trimming, binding, and

- 1 collating charge.
- 2 Q. And during the course of that conversation, did you
- 3 undertake to investigate Mr. Burke's inquiry?
- 4 A. No, the only thing that I had at that time when I spoke to
- 5 Mr. Burke was a copy of the contract.
- Q. Okay. And did you then review the contract in your 6
- discussion with Mr. Burke? 7
- 8 A. When you say review the contract, you mean to look at the
- 9 contract?
- 10 Q. Yeah. I mean basically, when you're on the phone with
- 11 Mr. Burke, do you have the contract in your hands and are you
- 12 looking at it as you're --
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. Okay. Now, how did you respond to Mr. Burke when he called
- you and you were reviewing the contract? 15
- 16 A. I don't quite understand your question. To a specific
- 17 question that he asked?
- 18 Q. Yeah. How did you respond to his inquiry?
- MR. LOMAS: Objection. Vague. It doesn't identify a 19
- 20 specific question.
- BY MR. KING: 21
- 22 Q. What did you tell Mr. Burke?
- 23 A. In response to something that Mr. Burke asked me?
- 24 Q. Yes.
- 25 A. Specifically?

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Q. You said that -- you testified earlier that he -- the nature of his call was in relation to billing under this particular contract, and specifically this collating, trimming to size, and binding, and that he was questioning this. What did you tell him? A. That I could not determine how we were billing the contract at that point because I didn't have any invoices in front of me. Q. Uh-huh. Did Mr. Burke provide you with any information regarding how the contract was being charged? A. Are you referring to his interpretation of how the contract was being charged, or my... Q. No, I'm referring to whether or not Mr. Burke provided you any information upon which you were able to respond to him. A. Respond? I still don't understand. When you say "respond to him," I'm trying to understand exactly: Respond to what? Q. Mr. Burke's questioning whether or not the charges were correct. A. Right. And at that point I mentioned earlier that I did not have any invoices in front of me, so that I could not tell Mr. Burke how we were processing the invoices. Q. Okay. So is it true your testimony today is that you did not tell Mr. Burke whether or not Record Press was charging the invoices correctly? Should I repeat --A. Yeah, right. My response to Mr. Burke was that we -- I

could not tell him how we were processing the invoices because I

- didn't have any invoices in front of me. I did not tell 1
- 2 Mr. Burke that we were processing the invoices incorrectly, if
- 3 that answers your question.
- 4 Q. Uh-huh. Did you tell Mr. Burke anything about how
- 5 Record Press was processing its invoices?
- 6 A. Well, if I did not have any invoices, I would not know how
- 7 Record Press was processing their invoices. So I couldn't tell
- Mr. Burke how Record Press was being paid. 8
- Q. Did Mr. Burke provide you any information regarding how 9
- 10 Record Press was charging on its invoices?
- 11 A. Not to my knowledge. That I can remember that he provided
- 12 me physically, or just by telling me?
- 13 Q. Telling you.
- 14 A. Telling me? He may have, but I don't remember him telling
- 15 me anything specifically about how Record Press was being paid.
- 16 Q. No, but my question is not how they're being paid. My
- question is how they're charging. Did he give you any 17
- information upon which you were able to base an understanding of 18
- what -- I'm sorry, you said that you didn't have any invoices so 19
- 20 you didn't know -- you wouldn't be able to provide some response
- 21 about whether or not GPO -- what GPO was doing.
- 22 And my question is: Since you didn't have any invoices
- 23 in front of you, did Mr. Burke provide you with any information
- 24 from something he had that reflected what would have been on an
- 25 invoice?

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MR. LOMAS: Objection. Leading.
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               THE COURT: The objection is overruled.
 3
      A. Not anything that I could recall that he specifically said
 4
      about what Record Press was being paid or how the invoices were
 5
      being processed.
      BY MR. KING:
 6
 7
      Q. How did the conversation end? You know, what was the idea
 8
      that was conveyed to Mr. Burke?
 9
               MR. LOMAS: Objection. Compound and...
10
               THE COURT: Sustained. Let me ask you to rephrase your
11
      question.
12
               MR. KING: Thank you, Your Honor.
13
      BY MR. KING:
14
      Q. What was the result, in your estimation, of the
15
      conversation?
16
      A. The result of the conversation, in my estimation, is that
17
      Mr. Burke had some question as to how these invoices were being
      processed on this contract. And...
18
19
      Q. Okay. So that's the end of that.
20
               So having received this call from Mr. Burke, him
21
      expressing his question about it, is your testimony today simply
22
      that you did not provide him with any information?
23
      A. Provide him with information? Yes, I provided Mr. Burke
24
      with some information.
25
      Q. Okay. What information did you provide Mr. Burke?
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- A. I provided Mr. Burke information to contact the contracting 1
- 2 officer if he had questions about contract interpretation.
- 3 he was questioning about how we were billing, I could not
- 4 provide him with any information at that time because I did not
- 5 have copies of invoices in front of me.
- 6 Q. Did you provide Mr. Burke with any information about what
- 7 the contract said?
- A. About what the contract said as far as? 8
- Q. Its terms. 9
- 10 A. Its terms? We may have discussed, you know, the contract
- 11 terms. You know, at no point did I tell Mr. Burke that we were
- 12 processing these invoices incorrectly.
- 13 Q. Uh-huh. So what kinds of contract terms -- if you can
- 14 recall, what kind of contract terms did you provide information
- 15 to Mr. Burke about?
- 16 A. Well, as I said, Mr. Burke had inquired about this one
- 17 specific line item, the collating, binding, and I think there's
- one other process that's involved there. But that specific line 18
- 19 item.
- 20 Q. What information did you provide to Mr. Burke about that
- 21 line item?
- 22 A. That I didn't know if we were processing -- or how our
- 23 office was processing that particular line item because I did
- 24 not have any invoices in front of me.
- 25 Q. Okay. Thank you. But I'm just trying to narrow in on: Did

- 1 you provide Mr. Burke any information about what the contract 2 said with respect to that line item?
- 3 A. With regards to what it said?
- 4 Q. That's right. The term of the contract.
- 5 A. The term? I'm not understanding when you say "the term."
- Q. The collating, trimming to size, and binding, which is that 6
- 7 work that you're referring to, which is the subject matter of
- 8 your conversation, that refers to a particular line item in the
- contract. Correct? 9
- 10 A. That's correct.
- 11 Q. Did you provide Mr. Burke with any information regarding
- 12 what that contract said regarding that line item?
- 13 A. None other than what was on that specific line item, that
- 14 that charge would be 12 -- I think \$12.25 per hundred.
- Q. Okay. Did you provide any information to Mr. Burke 15
- 16 regarding the running rates in the contract?
- 17 A. None other than what the line item that I just referred to,
- what I just said. 18
- 19 Q. So is it possible to answer that in a yes or no? Did you
- give him information -- did you provide Mr. Burke with 20
- 21 information from the contract about the running rate, yes or no?
- 22 A. For that specific line item?
- 23 Q. Well, let's do it one step at a time. At all?
- 24 A. At all, yes. For that specific item, yes.
- 25 Q. Well, okay. Let me just back up because it is a bit of a

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compound question. And we're stepping in front of and in back of each other. Did you provide Mr. Burke any information at all about the running rate in the contract, yes or no? A. Yes. Q. What did you tell him about the running rate in the contract? A. When Mr. Burke inquired about that particular rate, or about the contract, he inquired as to if we were processing these invoices correctly. He had a concern about how we were processing these invoices. My response to Mr. Burke was that I did not know how we were processing these invoices because I did not have copies of invoices this front of me. Q. What did you tell Mr. Burke about the running rate? A. Which running rate? Q. Is there more than one running rate? A. Yes, there are multiple line items on the contract. Q. Okay. You said that you did provide Mr. Burke with information about a running rate. What information about the running rate did you provide him?

A. That at that -- that particular running rate, if we're

talking about the collating, trimming, and binding, that that

- 1 Q. Are you saying that you told Mr. Burke that the running rate
- 2 applied to collating, trimming to size, and binding at the
- 3 per-100 rate?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 MR. LOMAS: Objection. Vaque. I'm sorry, I just want
- 6 to object to that as vague. I'm not sure the witness
- 7 understands what running rate he's referring to, because he's
- 8 not clarifying which running rate.
- 9 THE COURT: Let me ask you to rephrase your question
- 10 then, Mr. King, since Mr. Adgerson said there is more than one
- 11 running rate.
- 12 BY MR. KING:
- 13 Q. Did you tell Mr. Burke that the running rate applied to the
- 14 line item for the collating, trimming to size, and binding at
- 15 the per-100-page rate?
- 16 MR. LOMAS: Same objection.
- 17 THE COURT: The objection is overruled.
- A. Are you referring to the rate that's listed on that line 18
- 19 item?
- BY MR. KING: 20
- 21 Q. I mean, I'm just asking the question. The question is: Did
- 22 you tell Mr. Burke that the running rate --
- 23 A. For that line item, for trimming, collating, and binding --
- 24 there's multiple rates in the contract. Are you referring to
- 25 the rate for trimming, collating, and binding? If you're

- referring to that rate, yes, I told Mr. Burke that that was per 1 2 hundred at the rate that was listed next to that line item.
- 3 Q. Okay. Now, there is a running rate. The words "running 4 rate" are used in the contract. Right?
- 5 A. Yes.

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Q. Okay. And when I asked you if you referred to the running rate in your talk with Mr. Burke, I'm referring to the running rate that's indicated by the words "running rate" in the contract.

So is your testimony still that when you told Mr. Burke about the running rate, you were referring to the term in the contract that actually uses the words "running rate"?

- A. The word -- are you specifically talking about the word "running"?
- Q. The words, the actual words "running rate."
- 16 A. Right. And as I said before, you have different line items that have rates. You have multiple line items that have rates.
- 17
- Q. Okay. But those rates, it seems like now you're calling 18 those running rates. 19
- 20 A. Those processes require an operation. So when you look at a 21 contract and you have specific processes, then we refer to those
- 22 as actual running rates if it involves a process that... 23 Q. Okay. So your testimony is that, when you told Mr. Burke
- 24 about the running rates, that you weren't necessarily referring
- 25 to the running rate that's indicated by the words "running

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rate"; that you're also referring to other rates that don't
necessarily correspond to the words "running rate"? Is that
your testimony?
         MR. LOMAS: Objection. Vague.
         THE COURT: Sustained.
BY MR. KING:
Q. I'm just going to have to back it up a little bit again.
I'm sorry this is taking too long.
         You testified that you told Mr. Burke about a contract
term that related to a running rate. Correct?
A. I testified that I told Mr. Burke about a line item for a
rate for trimming, collating, and binding at the per-100 cost.
Q. Okay. When you spoke to Mr. Burke, did you use the words
"running rate"?
A. That was almost four years ago. I don't remember
specifically using the word "running rate." I can't tell you
that.
Q. So as far as you're aware right now, you're not sure whether
or not you discussed a quote/unquote "running rate" with
Mr. Burke?
         MR. LOMAS: Objection. Mischaracterizes testimony.
         THE COURT: Sustained.
BY MR. KING:
Q. Is your testimony today that you might not have used the
words "running rate" when you spoke to Mr. Burke?
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A. You say might not have used? Again, we're talking approximately four years ago, so I could not specifically tell you whether I used the word "running" or did not use the word "running." I just don't remember that. Q. So it's true that you might not have said that? THE COURT: Might not have said? Let me ask you to ask a complete question, please, since it is not clear what the term, quote, "that," closed quote, refers to. BY MR. KING: Q. It's true that you might not have used the words "running rate" when you spoke to Mr. Burke? A. In regards to a specific, or just the word, period? Again, it's been four years, and I don't remember, or I can't specifically say that, when I discussed that particular line item that was in question, that I used the word "running." I don't remember. Q. In your investigation and analyzing the contract to respond to Mr. Burke's questions, did you look at the GPO spreadsheet for this particular job? MR. LOMAS: Objection. Foundation. Mischaracterizes testimony. Foundation with respect to the investigation analysis. THE COURT: Will you rephrase your question, please, Mr. King?

BY MR. KING:

- 1 Q. When you were on the phone with Mr. Burke and you were 2 addressing his question, you said that you did have the contract 3 with you. Correct?
- 4 A. That's correct.
  - Q. And did you just happen to have that contract in front of you when he called? Or did you, you know, take an effort to
- pull up the contract when he called? 7
- A. No, the contract was actually physically brought to me. 8
- Mr. Burke had spoken to one of my supervisors, and she 9
- 10 transferred the call to me and she brought the contract up.
- 11 Q. Okay. And did you also have a GPO spreadsheet that
- 12 corresponded to this contract?
- 13 A. I had the prices. I don't recollect whether it was the
- 14 spreadsheet or whether it was the bid papers, but I did have the
- 15 prices.
- 16 Q. And if you were going to -- when you said you didn't know
- 17 how GPO was processing it, or you didn't know if GPO was
- processing it correctly, why weren't you able to determine 18
- whether or not GPO was processing it correctly at that time? 19
- 20 A. Because -- at the time that I spoke to Mr. Burke?
- Q. Uh-huh. 21
- 22 A. Because I did not have a copy of an invoice in front of me.
- 23 So in order for me to verify whether or not we were processing
- 24 them correctly or incorrectly, I would have to have an invoice
- 25 to review.

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1
      Q. Okay.
 2
               MR. KING: No more questions, Your Honor. Thank you.
 3
               THE COURT: Very well. Thank you, Mr. King.
 4
               Mr. Lomas, do you wish to cross-examine now or after
 5
      lunch?
               MR. LOMAS: Your Honor, if we could do it now, that
 6
 7
      would be preferred, so Mr. Adgerson can be on his way.
 8
               THE COURT: Very well.
 9
               MR. LOMAS: Thank you.
10
                              CROSS EXAMINATION
11
      BY MR. LOMAS:
12
      Q. Good morning, Mr. Adgerson.
13
      A. Good morning.
14
      Q. Could you just -- I don't know if we got it for the record.
15
      Your full name, please?
16
         My name is Calvin Adgerson.
17
      Q. Can you spell your last name?
18
      A. A-D-G, as in George, E-R-S-O-N.
19
      Q. Thank you. And you said you are retired from the GPO?
20
      A. That's correct.
21
      Q. And how long did you work for the GPO before you retired?
22
      A. I was an employee of the GPO for over 34 years.
23
      Q. And what was the general nature of your responsibilities at
24
      the GPO?
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A. The first approximately six years I was in the production

- 1 area. I was a typesetter. And in 1980 I transferred over to 2 the finance area.
- 3 Q. And what were your responsibilities in the finance area?
- 4 A. In the finance area, originally I was a printing specialist,
- 5 and we reviewed agency billings. We billed customer agencies
- 6 and reviewed the invoices that were received from the printing
- 7 contractors for correctness, to make sure that we were billed
- the customer agencies correctly. 8
- Q. And did your responsibilities in finance change after that 9
- 10 point at all?
- 11 A. About 10 years afterwards, I became a supervisor in the
- 12 payables area, and that area was directly responsible for paying
- 13 the commercial printing vendors. That was in 1990.
- 14 Q. And so were you reviewing to make sure vendors were being
- 15 paid properly?
- 16 A. Yes, that's correct.
- 17 Q. And if you spotted an issue -- if you identified an issue
- with that, would you raise it? 18
- 19 A. Yes. We would raise the issue and take the necessary steps
- 20 to correct what was wrong if we found something that was billed
- 21 incorrectly, yes.
- 22 Q. Now, if there was a question about a vendor contract, who
- 23 would you go to, or would there be somebody you would go to, to
- 24 discuss that?
- 25 A. Yes. If there was ever any discrepancy that we would find,

we would contact the contracting officer for clarification. 1

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- 2 Q. And so why would you need the contracting officer's
- 3 clarification? Why wouldn't you, for example, be able to
- 4 provide that?
- 5 A. Well, our area specifically is responsible for processing
- 6 the invoices. And there may be occasion where we interpret
- 7 something incorrectly, and we would seek the contracting
- 8 officer's guidance because the contracting officer has final
- authority. They administer the contracts. So that's where we 9
- 10 would go for clarification.
- Q. Now, when Mr. Burke first called you, were you aware of any 11
- 12 concern or issue about Record Press' contract or invoices?
- 13 A. No, there was no issue, to my knowledge, about how the
- 14 invoices on this contract for Record Press were being processed.
- 15 Q. And when Mr. Burke called you, did he tell you who he was?
- 16 A. No. Well, when he called me, he identified himself as a
- 17 representative of Mr. Wilmot from Record Press, and proceeded to
- inquire about how we were processing the invoices on this 18
- 19 contract for payment.
- 20 Q. Did you come to realize during the conversation that it was
- 21 not Mr. Wilmot or anybody from Record Press?
- 22 A. Well, during the course of the conversation, yes. During
- 23 the course of the conversation, I recollect that Mr. Burke had
- 24 asked me to fax a copy of the contract to him. And my thinking
- 25 was, and this is what I related: If you're who you say you are,

- could do this that we were paying the invoices correctly. Q. And what was the name of your section chief?
- 20 A. Rosa Smith.
- 21 Q. Did she report to you?
- A. Yes. 22

- 23 Q. And what did you learn through this follow-up?
- 24 A. It was determined that we had been processing the invoices
- 25 correctly, and there were no issues in the way we were

- 1 processing them.
- 2 Q. And so the price for collating, trimming to size, and
- 3 binding, is that \$12.25 per 100 pages?
- 4 A. Yes, that's correct.
- 5 Q. And does a per-10-copy running rate apply?
- 6 A. No, it does not.
- Q. Mr. Adgerson, are you familiar with an allegation that Burke 7
- 8 made in his complaint that mentioned your name?
- 9 A. Yes. Again, after our conversation, other than just to
- 10 verify that we were billing the contractors -- or we were paying
- 11 the contractors' invoices correctly, that was the end of it for
- 12 me as far as I was concerned, until my name happened to appear
- 13 in this case here, which was a shock to me, to be honest.
- 14 MR. LOMAS: Your Honor, may I approach?
- 15 THE COURT: Yes, you may.
- 16 BY MR. LOMAS:
- 17 Q. Mr. Adgerson, could you flip to the paragraph that's marked
- 19 in this document? And this document is the verified -- do 18
- you see that this is the verified complaint in this matter, 19
- United States of America ex rel Brian Burke v. Record Press? 20
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 Q. Can you flip to Paragraph Number 19?
- 23 A. (Witness complies.)
- 24 Q. Do you see the sentence that begins, for example, "Calvin
- 25 Anderson"?

```
1
      A. Yes.
 2
      Q. First, is that your name?
      A. No, it's not.
 3
 4
      Q. And second, the remainder of that sentence, is that true?
 5
      A. No, that is not true.
 6
      Q. Thank you, Mr. Adgerson.
 7
               MR. LOMAS: No further questions.
 8
               THE COURT: Now, Mr. King, do you have redirect
      examination of Mr. Adgerson?
 9
10
               MR. KING: No, I do not, Your Honor.
11
               THE COURT: You do not? Very well. Thank you,
12
      Mr. Adgerson. You may step down.
13
               MR. VALDEZ: May I be excused from the well,
14
      Your Honor?
15
               THE COURT: May Mr. Adgerson be excused, Mr. Lomas?
16
               Excuse me. Mr. King, may Mr. Adgerson be excused?
17
               MR. KING: Absolutely, Your Honor.
18
               THE COURT: Very well. You may be excused. And
19
      Mr. Valdez, you may be excused from the well of the court.
20
      Thank you.
21
               It is now approximately 12:35. We will recess at this
22
      time for lunch, and reconvene at 10 minutes before 2:00.
23
               Mr. King, who will be your next witness?
24
               MR. KING: Mr. Burke will be the next witness.
25
               THE COURT: Very well. Thank you very much.
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1	(Lunch recess taken at 12:44 p.m.).
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3	
4	CERTIFICATE OF OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER
5	
6	I, Rebecca Stonestreet, certify that the foregoing is a
7	correct transcript from the record of proceedings in the
8	above-entitled matter.
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13	SIGNATURE OF COURT REPORTER DATE
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#### P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S

THE COURT: Now, good afternoon. Mr. King.

MR. KING: Yes, Your Honor. The parties have discussed the possibility of stipulating to damages with the idea being that Mr. Gocial, the expert for Mr. Burke, would not be needed to testify.

Now, the -- Mr. Gocial is prepared to testify, and Mr. Burke, you know, wants him to testify. Mr. Burke needs to prove damages. One of the --

THE COURT: Is there any reason that Mr. Gocial cannot testify now?

MR. KING: No.

THE COURT: Can we do that, then?

MR. KING: Certainly.

THE COURT: Is that without objection, Mr. Lomas?

MR. LOMAS: Yes, Your Honor. Thank you. I think the question is that what we had offered to do is stipulate to the amount of the difference between the charges on the two invoices that Record Press charged and the amount of the charges that would be charged assuming the theory of the case of Mr. Burke, that the --

THE COURT: Well, that stipulation has been rejected. Since Mr. Gocial is here, he can testify subject, of course, to whatever objections might be made with respect to any individual questions.

> WENDY C. RICARD, RPR, CCR OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

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1 MR. LOMAS: Sure. 2 THE COURT: If the parties wish for Mr. Gocial to --3 of if they agree --4 No, Your Honor. I think the issue was --MR. LOMAS: 5 THE COURT: -- that Mr. Gocial should testify now or 6 King wants him to testify now, then I see no reason why 7 he cannot, and he could then be excused. 8 MR. LOMAS: Yes, Your Honor. I think the basis of 9 declining the stipulation seemed to be wanting Mr. Gocial to 10

testify outside the bounds of what was agreed to at the January 31st status conference because he only submitted a report on damages and the amount of damages, and since we'd be offering to stipulate to the amount of damages, it sounds like Mr. King wants to take him outside that scope and discuss matters that are related to liability.

THE COURT: Again, I will certainly hear objections to any questions as they are asked, but the stipulation has been rejected, and I gather that it has, then Mr. Gocial will be sworn, and the inquiry will proceed subject to whatever objections and ruling on objections may arise during his testimony.

MR. LOMAS: Okay. Thank you, Your Honor.

THE COURT: Is that satisfactory?

MR. LOMAS: Yes.

MR. KING: Yes, Your Honor.

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1
                 THE COURT: Mr. King, is it your request to call Mr.
 2
       Gocial next?
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                 MR. KING: Yes, Your Honor.
 4
                 THE COURT: Very well. Good afternoon, sir. Now,
 5
       let me ask you to please step forward to face the deputy clerk
 6
       to be sworn.
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8
                 MORRIS GOCIAL, called as a witness in this case,
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       after having been duly sworn, testified as follows:
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                 THE COURT: Now, good afternoon. Now, I note, sir,
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       that you have a -- you may have a seat. I note that there is a
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       binder in your hand. I will permit you to leave the binder
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       there on the table, but you must keep it closed until such time
       as the Court has indicated that you are free to review it or to
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       read from portions of it or look at portions of it to refresh
       your memory during the course of your testimony. We haven't
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       reached that point yet, so I'll direct you to please keep it
       closed in the meantime.
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                 THE WITNESS: I understand.
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                 THE COURT: Thank you. Now, Mr. King, please
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       proceed.
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                 MR. KING:
                            Thank you, Your Honor.
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      DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. KING:
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           Mr. Gocial, could you please state and spell your name for
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1 the record? 2 Morris Gocial; G-O-C-I-A-L. 3 (Whereupon, there was a brief pause to deal with 4 microphone/headset issue.) 5 THE COURT REPORTER: Could you spell your name again? 6 THE WITNESS: G-O-C-I-A-L. 7 THE COURT: I believe you may continue, Mr. King. 8 everyone able to hear? Very well. I think we've made an 9 adjustment for one of the mics. Very well. Please proceed. 10 BY MR. KING: 11 Mr. Gocial, where do you reside? 12 I reside in Philadelphia at 440 Avenue of the Arts, 13 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. 14 Could you explain for the Court your educational experience? 15 16 Yes. I graduated from Temple University in Philadelphia with a Bachelor in Business Administration. 17 18 And describe your work experience, please? 19 When I -- after I graduated from college, I worked 20 at Pricewaterhouse; then I went to a smaller firm, Fischbein 21 and Company, and then I went out on my own. I've been out on 22 my own since 1974, and I've grown my company to about 23 70-something people right now with approximately 20 partners.

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We are a CPA firm, management consulting firm, with

And what is the nature of the business?

24

25

Q.

- Q. And your professional designations, if you will?
- A. I'm a Certified Public Accountant. I'm a Certified

  Forensic Accountant. I'm a Certified Valuation Analyst. I'm
- 6 certified in financial forensics.
- $7 \parallel Q$ . And memberships in professional organizations?
- A. I belong to the American Institute of CPA's; the
  Pennsylvania Institute of CPA's; the New Jersey Society of
- 10 CPA's because I'm registered in both of those states as a CPA.
- I belong to the National Association of Certified Valuation --
- 12 Association -- the National Evaluation Association.
- 13 | Q. Uh-huh.

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- 14 A. And I'm also on the Pennsylvania Institute of CPA's
- 15 Business Evaluation Committee and the Pennsylvania Institute of
- 16 CPA's Forensic and Litigation Committee.
- 17 | Q. Have you had an opportunity to lecture?
- 18 A. I have lectured on occasion, yes.
- 19  $\parallel$  Q. Okay. And what generally is the nature of those lectures?
- 20 A. I testified -- I lectured at a lawyers' seminar in
- 21 reference as to how to select an expert witness.
- 22 | O. Uh-huh.
- 23 A. I testified at a divorce conference as to what the role of
- 24 | a forensic accountant would be. I testified in front of the
- 25 | legal administrators to teach them how to read financial

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ask you to come to the microphone, please, so we'll be certain that the backup recording equipment is operating. MR. O'BRIEN: Thank you, Your Honor. We just want to

be crystal clear about what opinion Mr. Gocial is being offered for. Again, if we go back to that lengthy January 31 hearing that we had, it was as to two invoices, the amount of damages per two invoices, and if that is what he's being

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                 THE COURT: Very well. You may proceed. The Court
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       will receive Mr. Gocial as an expert with respect to offering
 3
       -- for the purpose of receiving an opinion with respect to
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       damages arising from the two invoices.
 5
                 Now, you may --
 6
                 MR. KING: May I approach the witness, Your Honor?
 7
                 THE COURT: Yes, you may.
8
                 MR. KING: Thank you.
9
       BY MR. KING:
10
           Mr. Gocial, I'm handing you Record Press invoice 87-1700.
11
       And that is Plaintiff's Exhibit D. Mr. Gocial, you had an
12
       opportunity to review this invoice as part of your report; is
       that correct?
13
           Yes, I did.
14
       Α.
            And if we could just quickly go through these line items
15
       and indicate where you found any overcharging, if at all.
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                 MR. O'BRIEN: Objection, your Honor. There's one
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18
       line out of an issue. It's collating, trimming to size and
19
       binding --
20
                 MR. KING: Okay. If we want to zero in on the
21
       disputed line item.
22
                 THE COURT: Very well. Let me ask you then, Mr.
23
       King, please rephrase your question.
24
                 MR. KING: Okay.
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                 THE COURT: Thank you.
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# BY MR. KING:

- Mr. Gocial, could you indicate for the Court which line item on Plaintiff's Exhibit D and refer to it by the name and not really the number of it.
- Okay. Α.
- Refer to the line item wherein the damages that you've identified occurred.

THE WITNESS: Your Honor, may I pull out my own copy of this so I don't have to recalculate some of the numbers? THE COURT: When you say "your copy of this", do you

11 mean --

> THE WITNESS: The exact copy of this invoice that I did some mathematical calculations on.

> > THE COURT: Is that without objection?

MR. O'BRIEN: Your Honor, the objection would be there's one line at issue; it's point 1225, \$372.40. So it's a matter of moving the decimal place.

THE COURT: Well, let me ask you, Mr. King, will you inquire please of Mr. Gocial whether he is able to testify without resort to the materials in his binder?

21 BY MR. KING:

- Are you -- in order to answer this question, are you able to answer it just based on the face of this invoice?
- Yes, I can.
  - Ο. You can? Okay. Then for the purposes of this particular

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question, can you identify the line item on this invoice by the name of it, which refers to -- which has a -- which is included in the damages in your report in this matter? Okay. The fourth amount from the top which is totalling Α. of \$372.40, it reads from left to right, 3,040 in quantity column; the description is collating, trimming to size, and binding charge; 3,040 pages at 12.25 per 100 pages. And the price, it is point, 1225 cents -- doesn't have a dollar mark, but that's what I believe that it refers to; and the total amount is \$372.40. And based on your analysis of the invoice and the amount Q. of damages, what did you determine the precise amount of damages in this particular invoice to be? My calculations suggest that this line should be \$37.24; Α. therefore, is overstated by about 37, -- three -- well, the difference between \$37.24 and \$372.40. Okay. Thank you, Mr. Gocial. Q. MR. KING: Your Honor, may I approach the witness again? THE COURT: Yes. BY MR. KING: Mr. Gocial, I'm handing you a document, it's labeled with Bates number RP-69. This is an attachment to Plaintiff's Exhibit A. In rendering --

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MR. O'BRIEN: Your Honor, I'm going to object to the

1 introduction of this spreadsheet. This goes not to damages, 2 but to contract -- this is a contract that's being put in front 3 of the witness. 4 Your Honor, if I may respond? MR. KING: 5 THE COURT: Mr. King. 6 MR. KING: It's not true that this is a contract. 7 The contract is a very specific document. This is a -- this is another document that other people have testified to today with 8 9 respect to this matter. My line of questioning for Mr. Gocial 10 here is simply whether or not he reviewed this in his -- in 11 preparing his report, and if he reviewed it whether or not it 12 affected his calculation of the amount of damages. MR. O'BRIEN: Your Honor, if I may? 13 THE COURT: You may inquire of Mr. Gocial what he 14 considered in forming his opinion. 15 MR. KING: Uh-huh. 16 BY MR. KING: 17 18 Mr. Gocial, did you have an opportunity to review this 19 spreadsheet? 20 THE COURT: The question would be in a non-leading 21 form; what was it that Mr. Gocial reviewed? 22 BY MR. KING: 23 Mr. Gocial, what did you review in forming your opinion? Q. I reviewed the invitation for bid, Contract No. 24 25 which is the contract that I believe covers this particular

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invoice, and part of that contract included this spreadsheet. So, therefore, I read the entire contract, including this spreadsheet, and that is the information that I utilized to formulate my opinion. Okay. Did the -- having an opportunity now to look at the spreadsheet again, does the spreadsheet change your opinion or the report in my manner? I found this spreadsheet not to be of any value in terms Α. of my being able to formulate an opinion. There are too many questions and unanswered questions as to what this really means relative to the actual contract --MR. O'BRIEN: Objection, Your Honor. When he says "what this really means", it's going to contract interpretation, and, again, he's only here for damages, not to say what the contract means or the interpretation of the contract. THE COURT: The objection is overruled with the understanding that the witness may complete his answer, which is a part of the inquiry of what he reviewed in order to formulate the opinion.

THE WITNESS: To support my opinion, I looked at this contract and the numbers as presented here didn't make any sense when you compare --

THE COURT: The question is only at this point what you reviewed in formulating your opinion.

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       12 point 25 cents or point 1225 dollars, which totals up to
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       $1,386.70.
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            How did you calculate the amount of damages with respect
       Ο.
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       to this particular line item?
 5
            Because this line item didn't take into consideration the
       Α.
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       running rate of 10 copies, I recalculated it and came up with a
 7
       dollar amount; that line should have been of $138.67. And the
8
       damage, therefore, would be the difference between $138.67 and
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       the $1,386.70.
10
            And having the spreadsheet that I also handed you before,
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       RP-69, having the opportunity to see that again today, does
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       having that opportunity to see it change or affect your
       analysis of the damages at issue in this invoice?
13
           It does not.
14
       Α.
15
                 MR. KING: No further questions, Your Honor.
16
                 THE COURT: Very well. Thank you very much, Mr.
17
       King.
18
                     Lomas or Mr. O'Brien, you may cross-examine.
19
       Mr. Lomas?
20
                 MR. LOMAS: No, Your Honor. No questions. Thank
21
       you.
22
                 THE COURT: Very well, thank you. Mr. Gocial, thank
23
       you very much, sir. You may step down.
24
                 THE WITNESS:
                              Thank you, Your Honor.
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                 MR. KING: Your Honor, is Mr. Gocial required to
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       leave the courtroom at this point or can he stay now that he's
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       done testifying?
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                 THE COURT: Am I correct that you do not intend to
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       call Mr. Gocial -- in other words, that you have completed
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       your inquiry of Mr. Gocial; is that correct?
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                 MR. KING: Yes, Your Honor.
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                 THE COURT: Very well, I assume in that event the
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       defendant has no objection?
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                 MR. LOMAS: No, Your Honor. We will not be calling
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       Mr. Gocial.
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                 THE COURT: Very well, thank you. Then, yes, sir,
       you are free to stay. Now, Mr. King, is Mr. Burke your next
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       witness?
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                 MR. KING: Yes.
                 THE COURT: Very well. Mr. Burke, good afternoon. I
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       will ask you to please step around toward the witness chair and
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       face the deputy clerk to be sworn.
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                 BRIAN THOMAS BURKE, called as a witness in this case,
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       after having been duly sworn, testified as follows:
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                 THE COURT: Mr. King.
       DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. KING:
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           Mr. Burke, please state and spell your name for the
25
       record.
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       anything else that you require of the Court? I thought I heard
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       you say that there's an accommodation you need?
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                 THE WITNESS: No, Your Honor. That's the only
 4
       accommodation.
 5
                 THE COURT: That's the only one?
 6
                 THE WITNESS: Yes.
 7
                 THE COURT: Very well. I certainly have no objection
8
       whatsoever to your continuing to wear your glasses, your
9
       sunglasses.
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                 MR. KING: Thank you, Your Honor.
11
                 THE WITNESS: Thank you, Your Honor. Yes.
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       well, anyway, the courts -- the district court judge threw out
13
       the case, and I appealed it to the Second Circuit. In the
       Second Circuit, the United States prevailed, and that case was
14
15
       dismissed in the Second Circuit.
16
                 After that case, under case law there is -- the U.S.
       Attorney's Office was allowed to do a motion for cause I
17
18
       understand. They did do that for the cost of the briefs and
19
       the printing costs. I opposed that motion and --
20
       BY MR. KING:
21
           Mr. Burke, if you don't mind, I'm just going to interrupt
22
       you on that point and then let me introduce an exhibit to you.
23
                 If I may approach, Your Honor?
                 THE COURT: Yes.
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25
       BY MR. KING:
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I'm handing Mr. Burke Plaintiff's Exhibits C and D. Mr. Burke, these are the invoices -- can you -- if you have a moment to look at the invoices. Those are the invoices from Record Press that correspond to the brief and the appendix in that matter; is that correct? Α. Yes. Ο. Let me just go ahead and I'll ask you the question: it's the case, though, correct, that the bill that you just testified about was a different bill than these invoices, correct? I believe there was an added seven percent to those bills. So the bills that you received from the -- as part of the Q. bill of costs included these charges, but also included an additional charge of seven percent, correct? That is my understanding at this time, yes. Q. Okay. After you received the bill, what did you do? Well, I had a certain time to respond to a motion. I believe it was 14 days, and I did procrastinate a bit. I'm a working man, and that last day was to respond to -- I reviewed the bill and, of course, I had printed my own briefs, and I saw that the costs were -- some of them seemed competitive, and one line was an outrageous cost for binding costs, which was approximately 85 percent of the costs.

And I immediately was struck by this irregularity, it

seemed, someone who pays for binding themselves, and --

1	Q. What did you decide to do after that happened?
2	A. I made some phone calls. I made a number of phone calls.
3	I wish could remember the exact order. I don't know if I
4	called GPO first, or I did call Record Press, and I did speak
5	to Mr. Wilmot and Mr and he said that
6	MR. O'BRIEN: Objection, Your Honor; as to hearsay.
7	THE COURT: Sustained.
8	BY MR. KING:
9	Q. Mr. Wilmot I'm sorry Mr. Burke, you said that you
0	called the GPO. Did you speak with Mr. Adgerson when you
11	called the GPO?
L2	A. I spoke with Mr. Adgerson and a number of people.
L3	Q. How did you introduce yourself to Mr. Adgerson?
4	A. Well, I as I said, I made a number of calls. Probably
L5	10 to 15 calls trying to speaking to Mr. Adgerson, and I was
L6	as he's testified basically referred to him, and I, as myself,
L7	Brian Burke, and I explained
18	MR. O'BRIEN: Objection, Your Honor.
L9	THE COURT: Let me ask you to come to the podium, Mr.
20	O'Brien.
21	MR. O'BRIEN: Yes, Your Honor.
22	THE COURT: What is your objection?
23	MR. O'BRIEN: Mr. Burke's statements that he is
24	testifying to now are hearsay. So there's been no
25	demonstration for why that should be an exception to hearsay.

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THE COURT: Mr. King.

MR. KING: Well, Your Honor, to be questioned of whether or not Mr. Burke said that he was himself or someone else is at issue right now, and the point of Mr. Burke's testifying about what he said is to determine not whether or not it's true that he is Mr. Burke, but that he actually made these statements.

And that the reason for his testimony is to deal with the fact that there's conflicting testimony that he did not in fact say these words, and now he's able to testify, and he can be cross-examined. The rules regarding hearsay and the unavailability of a person and the inability to cross-examine them are not at issue.

Mr. Burke is the declarant. He's here in court making this statement. He's not talking about what someone else said outside the court, and for all these reasons, he can testify about what he said to Mr. Adgerson.

THE COURT: The Court will overrule the objection based upon your representation that you are not offering the statement for the truth of the matter asserted in it. It's simply to explain subsequent conduct.

MR. KING: Thank you, Your Honor.

BY MR. KING:

Mr. Burke, you -- again, how did you introduce yourself -- how did you represent yourself to Mr. Adgerson when you

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22 23

24 25 called?

It was not a long conversation. I identified myself as I did with all the other 10 to 15 people I called that day. gave them my name and why I was calling, that I was a plaintiff in a case, and I lost this case, and I was served this motion for costs and within it was a bill from GPO, and I was inquiring about that one line on this bill that I believe as I do today is an outrageous charge.

Did Mr. Adgerson provide you information about the --Q. about the contract?

MR. O'BRIEN: Objection. Any statement by Mr. Adgerson will be hearsay.

THE COURT: Mr. King.

MR. KING: First of all, Your Honor, I'm not asking him to repeat a statement of Mr. Adgerson. I'm asking him whether or not Mr. Adgerson provided him with information. I will ask him whether or not Mr. Adgerson made certain statements, but, again, the question is not whether or not the statements are true; the question is whether or not the statements were made.

And at issue here is, you know, already today we've had a defense put up a copy of the verified complaint in the case, pointing out that Mr. Burke made a claim in his verified complaint that contradicts the testimony of a witness. Burke's good faith in filing the complaint is called into

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1 question.

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Mr. Burke's knowledge of statements made by GPO officials to him as it pertains to his state of mind reflects his good faith, and the -- Mr. Burke's testimony on what was said to him implicates the question of whether or not the statement was made and not so much whether or not -- you know, what the statement is true.

And, to be perfectly honest with you, we're not going to even be able to get close today to whether or not Mr. Burke is going to be able to provide hearsay testimony on whether or not Mr. Adgerson's statements are true and how that relates to liability in the case.

This line of questioning is simply what did -- is what Mr. Adgerson says he told you true or did he tell you something else? Is it true that --

THE COURT: First of all, the question which was asked -- the Court finds that the question which was asked was compound. The Court is prepared to overrule the objection to the question of whether Mr. Burke spoke with Mr. Adgerson, however, the Court will sustain the objection to what may well be your follow-up question, which is what did Mr. Adgerson say. The Court would find that is hearsay, and it is inadmissible.

I would also note for the record that this is a matter that should come as no surprise to any of the parties

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1 because, although, the pretrial conference was conducted off 2 the record, this is an issue which arose at least to some 3 extent at that time and may have indeed been addressed at an 4 earlier point. 5 If you wish to ask the first part of the compound 6 question, the Court is prepared to overrule the objection to 7 that, but I will not permit the further question regarding what Mr. Adgerson said in response, if anything -- we recognize -- I 8 9 apologize. I will not permit the question regarding what Mr. 10 Adgerson said, finding that it is inadmissible hearsay. 11 MR. KING: Okay. BY MR. KING: 12 13 Mr. Burke, what was the nature of your inquiry with Mr. Q. 14 Adgerson? Well, basically, it was a question that was fairly 15 16 specific. I was looking at this bill, and I saw some of the 17 costs seemed quite competitive, per page costs, and the 18 collating, trimming, and binding costs were this outrageous 19 charge, and it certainly just didn't -- it defied logic to me, 20 just as any type of contract, whether it was --21 And Mr. Burke, did the -- did Mr. Adgerson confirm or 22 deny your suspicion? 23

MR. O'BRIEN: Objection, Your Honor.

THE COURT: The objection is sustained on the ground previously stated; that is, the answer would be hearsay.

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MR. KING: Okay. And so, Your Honor, any question about anything that Mr. Adgerson said is hearsay; is there no room for any statement that Mr. Adgerson said to fall under an exception to this rule?

THE COURT: I am reluctant to rule in advance because I have not heard the question. It may be that there is some question as to which the Court would find the answer does not call for inadmissable hearsay, but, certainly, questions regarding what Mr. Adgerson said about his understanding of the invoice or the billing practice would be inadmissible hearsay.

- BY MR. KING:
- 13 Mr. Burke, it's true that you did not have a copy of the Q. 14 contract at this time?
  - That is absolutely correct. Α.
- 16 Q. But you did have a copy of the invoices?
- 17 I -- well, it was invoices plus seven percent. Α.
- Right. You had a copy of the Department of Justice's 18 19 invoices to you, correct?
- 20 Correct.
- 21 And so the nature of the conversation was that you were 22 providing -- is it true that the nature of the conversation 23 involved you --

THE COURT: Well, let's also not -- I will remind you that since this is direct examination, your inquiry must

1 proceed by non-leading questions. 2 MR. KING: Thank you, Your Honor. 3 BY MR. KING: 4 Mr. Burke, did -- could you please explain to the Court 5 whether or not Mr. Adgerson cited any words from the contract 6 that he was reviewing? 7 MR. O'BRIEN: Objection, Your Honor. 8 THE WITNESS: Yes. 9 THE COURT: Sustained. 10 MR. KING: Okay, Your Honor. And then I would just 11 respond that again if the question is whether or not Mr. 12 Adgerson used specific words, it goes to whether or not the statement was made and not whether or not those words are true 13 14 or whether or not they have some relationship to something 15 else. 16 THE COURT: You are certainly free to ask what Mr. -you're certainly free to ask Mr. Burke what he did in response 17 18 to whatever it was that he was told. MR. KING: Okay. 19 20 BY MR. KING: 21 Mr. Burke, based on the words that Mr. Adgerson used in 22 responding to your inquiry, what did that lead you to do? 23 Well -- well, I was told not to use this word in court, but basically I answered, "Oh, so it's fraud," and that was 24 25 basically the end of the conversation. Then I immediately

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called the Inspector General for the Government Printing Office prior to getting the contract, and then I spoke to I guess it was a Mr. Lloyd Rawls(Phonetic) from the Government Printing Office and gave him the full information, that based --

MR. O'BRIEN: Your Honor, his statements, Mr. Burke's statements, again, he's talking about hearsay, his conversations with Mr. Rawls. There's no exception for that that's been cited for hearsay.

THE COURT: The Court is prepared for Mr. Burke to finish his answer to the question without regard and no further question has been asked, but I assume that consistent with the Court's earlier rulings, he will not ask what the inspector general said.

## BY MR. KING:

- And let's narrow in on just a couple of categories of what you did because obviously you did a lot, but let's narrow in the focus. What did you do in response to your conversation with Mr. Adgerson in relation to the case, Burke v. Evans, in which those charges were assessed?
- Well, after I dealt with the inspectors general's office, I -- actually, Mr. Rawls -- excuse me, Mr. Adgerson did tell me that I could get a copy of the contract from the Philadelphia office, the contracting officer, and I did get a hold of not the contract officer apparently for this, but a co-worker. And she sent me a copy by e-mail of the 2231-S, and

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given what the information I gleaned from Mr. Adgerson and the contract itself, I filed a reply to the U.S. -- United States as motion for costs.

- And, Mr. Burke, was your opposition to those costs, was Q. your contesting of those costs, ever opposed?
- It was not opposed, and I'd like to point out within that motion in my reply, I did make a contemporaneous account paraphrasing what Mr. Adgerson said under oath, and it was upheld by the Second Circuit.
- 10 What did you end up paying for those costs?
- 11 Α. The Court quashed the motion and, certainly, wouldn't want 12 to presume why, but they apparently took my word on this.
  - Mr. Burke, please explain what you did in response to the Q. conversation with Mr. Adgerson and having received the contract in relation to this case?
    - Yeah, well, of course, when I discovered what I guess is now controversial, what my opinion is in this case, and what I believe the correct amount should be, I filed the pages for the motion, and I did also I believe called the Department of Justice about it, this information.
  - I'm sorry, Mr. Burke. My question, though, has to do with this particular case.
  - All right. Α.
    - And the question is just was -- how did this prompt you -how did your conversation with Mr. Adgerson and your having

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1 the contract prompt you to get involved in this particular 2 matter? 3 Well, after a little research, I realized that I believed Α. 4 they were in violation of the Federal False Claims Act, and I 5 called some law firms and I obtained retained counsel, and, of 6 course, it was a complaint filed under seal with the Department 7 of Justice. 8 MR. KING: Thank you, Mr. Burke. No further 9 questions. 10 THE COURT: Thank you very much, Mr. King. Mr. 11 O'Brien? 12 MR. O'BRIEN: Yes, Your Honor. 13 THE COURT: You may cross-examine. CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. O'BRIEN: 14 Mr. Burke, I believe you've just indicated that at the 15 16 time that you filed this complaint, you did not have the actual invoices from Record Press, correct? 17

- Did counsel mean by actual invoices if I had invoices plus
- 19 seven percent more, it would certainly mimic or mirror the
- 20 invoices, so I wouldn't necessarily agree with your statement.
- 21 Sure. And what I mean by the specific invoices, Mr.
- 22 Burke, is the Plaintiff's Exhibit D and C. If we could pull 23 those up?
  - I don't believe I had this identical document. I had a similar document.

- Q. And you've never worked for Record Press; is that correct,
- 2 Mr. Burke?

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- That's correct. Α.
- 4 And you've never worked for the Government Printing Q.
- 5 Office; am I right?
- 6 Α. That's correct.
  - Ο. And you did not participate in the drafting of the contract between Record Press and the Government Printing Office, correct?
- 10 That's correct. Α.
- 11 Q. And when you filed your complaint, you did not have these 12 two invoices, this is Plaintiff's C and D, correct?
- 13 I wouldn't agree with that. I believe what I had was a Α. similar document with seven percent --14
- Okay. Well, I'm asking you about these two exact 15 invoices, sir. You didn't have these two exact invoices, 16
- right? 17
- 18 Well, this is -- my copy is of some invoices. No. I didn't have this exact document. 19
- 20 As a matter of fact, you stated in your verified complaint 21 that relator does not have access to Record Press' invoices, 22 correct?
- 23 Well, again, you're characterizing what is a Record Press 24 invoice. I believe I did have a Record Press invoice, but not 25 this exact document. It was simply seven percent added to it.

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- Q. And the seven percent, you're talking about the bill of costs that you received from the GPO; is that correct?
  - A. I'm talking about the seven percent that the Government

    Printing Office adds to their invoices when they send it to the

    Department of Justice.
- Q. Right. And it's the bill of costs that you received from the government, right?
  - A. It was a bill of costs with documents attached.
    - Q. Right. And that is the bill of cost that prompted you to make these phone calls that you've been talking about to the government, right?
  - A. To the government and others, yes.
- Q. But the amounts that you included in your verified complaint are not the amounts from the Record Press invoices, Exhibit C and D, correct?
  - A. There is a seven percent added due to the GPO's overhead added to the cost.
    - Q. Right. So when you stated in your verified complaint for instance that Record Press charged \$1,483.77, that was false, correct?
    - A. This was on information I believe that was represented by the government as being their costs. I wasn't aware at the time of the seven percent added, and I was not informed of it, so it was off by seven percent.
    - Q. So your complaint stating that Record Press charged the

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1 government \$1,483.77, your verified complaint, was wrong?

- It was to the extent that I was being charged the amount that I put in the complaint what Record Press was paid or what they requested under their -- what I contend is a false claim was seven percent less.
- And it was also seven percent less than \$398.47, right? Q.
  - Α. That's correct. And I would certainly point out that might be an incentive for GPO to not want to discover this information.
  - And so when you put that in your complaint at Paragraph 15 that Record Press charged the government or charged \$398.47, that was false, right?
  - Well, the amount that Record Press charged the government Α. was seven percent less than I was being charged by the government. So the government was, in fact, I guess profiting from the overcharge.
  - the Record Press invoice that is listed at Plaintiff's Exhibit C, the amount that was charged to the government was -- if you look at the line item, \$12.25 per 100 pages, correct?

And, sir, if you look at Record Press exhibit or rather

- Well, if these documents are correct. Α.
- Right. And then if you look at Plaintiff's Exhibit D, and Q. you'll see the line item for the amount for collating, trimming to size and binding charge, that's \$12.25 per 100 pages, correct?

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- Α. If these documents are correct.
- In your verified complaint at Paragraph 12, you stated Q. that Record Press charged \$12.50 per page, correct?
  - I don't have a copy of the complaint in front of me. Α.
  - Sure. Let us get that for you. If we could show you a Q. copy of your verified complaint at Paragraph 12, sir, and for the convenience of the Court, we'll pull it up on the screen and for you, Mr. Burke, as well. And --

THE COURT: Is it on your screen, Mr. Burke? I have it here.

11 THE WITNESS: I have one page there, a cover page.

- 12 BY MR. O'BRIEN:
- 13 Sure. And I'm going to ask you to look at Paragraph 12, Q.
- 14 Burke. Mr.
- (Witness complies.) 15 Α.
- 16 Q. Do you see that, Mr. Burke?
- 17 Α. Yes.
- And you see where you say that Record Press' contract with 18
- 19 GPO incorporated the terms, conditions, and specifications set
- 20 forth in the request for proposal and sets the cost for binding
- 21 a 10-copy run of a brief or appendix at \$12.50 per 100 pages;
- 22 do you see that, sir?
- 23 Yes, I do. Α.
- 24 This is what you alleged in your verified complaint, Q.
- 25 right?

right, sir?

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- Α. If this is a correct copy of the complaint, yes.
- 2 And, in fact, Record Press charged \$12.25 per 100 pages, Q. 3 right, sir?
  - That isn't my information. Α.
- 5 Well, if we just looked at the invoices that your counsel Q. 6 put into record showing that they charged \$12.25 per 100 pages, 7
- 8 Α. In the invoice I got from the government, it wasn't broken down with the seven percent, so we didn't make an assumption, 9
- 10 and we made the assumption that they were charging \$12.50 11 instead of \$12.25.
- 12 In fact, when you filed the case, you just had the GPO 13 request for proposal, but the line item for the collating, 14 trimming and binding, that was blank, right?
- Mr. Adgerson gave me some numbers, and I believe --15
- 16 That's not my question, sir. The document that you had,
- the line item for collating, trimming and sizing, that was 17
- 18 blank, right?
- The -- was blank, but as you can see in the 19 20 contemporaneous document I filed with Court the day I 21 discovered the overcharge or fraud --
- 22 Sir, my question is just --Q.
- 23 -- I got those numbers, 12.50. Α.
- 24 Yeah, 12.50; which is not the amount that was charged, 25 right, sir?

1 Α. It was information that was given to me by GPO. I didn't 2 make it out of air. 3 But you didn't have the Record Press invoices when you Q. 4 filed, you told us, right, sir? 5 I had a conversation with Mr. Adgerson who gave me this Α. 6 number, 12.50. 7 0. And, sir, when you filed your complaint, you had the RFP 8 from the government, but not the line items that were filled in 9 by Record Press, right? 10 I had line items given to me by Mr. Adgerson. 11 Q. You have to listen to my question, okay? 12 THE COURT: The Court is going to interject at this 13 point. Mr. O'Brien has asked a question I believe three times, perhaps, phrasing it slightly differently each time, and 14

that is the question that you must answer.

THE WITNESS: I apologize to the Court, Your Honor.

THE COURT: Do you want Mr. O'Brien to repeat it?

THE WITNESS: Yes. I have to apologize. Sorry.

BY MR. O'BRIEN: 19

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- Sure. Mr. Burke, when you filed your complaint, you had from the GPO a blank request for proposal; it did not have the line items filled in for collating, trimming, and sizing and binding, right?
- The document that I was e-mailed by GPO on the day of the discovery was blank, yes, as far as those line items.

- Q. And there were no price terms filled in, right?
- 2 On that particular document, there were no price terms. Α.
- 3 Now, Mr. Burke, you mentioned in response to questions Q.
- 4 from Mr. King that you filed this case after you received the
- 5 bill of costs from the Burke v. Evans case; is that right?
  - From information I gleaned from that, yes.
- 7 0. And Mr. Evans, this was your lawsuit against Mr. Evans
- 8 who was the Secretary of Commerce; am I right?
- 9 Yes. Mr. Evans, and then they wanted to change it to I Α.
- 10 guess Mr. Gonzales who became the new Secretary of Commerce.
- 11 Now, in that case, you're alleging that you were the Q.
- 12 victim of employment discrimination, Title VII; is that right?
- 13 I believe Title VII, the Rehabilitation Act, yes. Α.
- And the Court dismissed your case; is that right, sir? 14 Q.
- That's correct. 15 Α.
- 16 Now, in the dismissal, the Court found that you had come
- forward with, quote: Nothing beyond the realm of conclusory 17
- 18 assertions and speculation to support your claims; am I right?
- Well, I don't have that information in front of me. 19
- 20 can't recall exactly what the Court said, but --
- 21 Well, let's go ahead and mark an exhibit that I'd like to
- 22 put in front of you.
- 23 MR. KING: Your Honor, I'm going to object on the
- 24 grounds of relevance.
- 25 THE COURT: Mr. O'Brien?

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MR. O'BRIEN: It goes to his motivation. First of all, Your Honor, he testified as to it on direct, but it also goes to his motivation, the basis of his investigation, the reason he filed this lawsuit; he's saying it was in response to this bill of costs. Also, specifically, in this case, it goes to his honesty, his credibility, because there's statements in the decision that go to his credibility. As a witness, there's traditional impeachment. THE COURT: The objection is overruled. MR. O'BRIEN: May I approach, Your Honor? THE COURT: Yes. BY MR. O'BRIEN: Mr. Burke, we have put in front of you a copy of the decision from the Burke v. Evans case, and if I could ask you to turn to Page 16, please. And for the convenience of the Court, we'll also put it up on the screen, and, also, Mr. Burke, for you on the screen. THE COURT: I see that there is an opinion now on my Do you have the opinion on your screen, Mr. Burke? THE WITNESS: I have Page 5 on the screen. You asked for Page 16? MR. O'BRIEN: Yes. We'll turn to Page 16 for you, Mr. Burke, on the screen as well, okay? THE WITNESS: All right. Yes.

BY MR. O'BRIEN:

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Burke, the question I had asked you is that Okay. Mr. the Court found in this case that you had come forward with nothing beyond the realm of conclusory assertions and speculation to support your claims?

If you look at the first full paragraph on the left column there, sir, at Page 16?

- Α. Yes, I see that.
- So does this refresh your recollection that the Court had Q. found that you had nothing but conclusory assertions and speculation to support your claims?
- 12 Well, they dismissed the case, so that -- yes, that was Α. 13 their legal opinion. Yes.
  - The Court also found that your allegations were based on Q. vague recollections of conversations with third parties; do you see that, sir?
  - In the middle of the next paragraph.
- 18 And, likewise, it said that you had unsupported 19 conclusions drawn from documents produced by the defendants in 20 that case; do you see that?
  - That's exactly what it says, yes. Α. Yes.
    - Further, in that case, sir, the Court found that you had Q. attempted to rely on an affirmation that contradicted your prior deposition testimony; do you recall that?
      - Where is that?

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- We'll pull the page out for you, sir. Do you see where it says, plaintiff may not rely on an affidavit, or, in this case, an affirmation, which contradicts his prior deposition testimony to create an issue of fact precluding summary judgment; do you see that, sir?
- Yeah. They quoted another case. I don't understand what you're --
  - Q. I just wanted to refresh your recollection that the Court had found this; do you recall that?
  - Well, can I get what line -- you're kind of taking --Α.
- 11 Q. Well, you have a hard copy in front of you as well, sir, 12 on Page 16, and if we could also zoom back.
  - Yes. I believe that was an issue regarding my recognizing Α. Mr. Brown(Phonetic) who -- that was the first time I had met him, and I, certainly, at the deposition, I was made aware that based on his voice and appearance that he was the one that made the remarks. So, certainly, there was perhaps that slight contradiction.
  - Sure. So it is your memory --

THE COURT: Just the following: If it is your contention, Mr. O'Brien, that in the opinion there are references to a finding by a court regarding Mr. Burke's credibility, I believe that those would be relevant to this proceeding. If -- the Court cannot conclude that the same would be true with regard to findings of the Court regarding

matters such as, for example, the sufficiency of the evidence.

2 The Court cannot conclude without anything more that 3 a court's finding that the evidence was insufficient --4 MR. O'BRIEN: I understand, your Honor. 5 THE COURT: -- had a bearing on Mr. Burke's 6 credibility. So I will ask that if there are findings 7 regarding, for example, credibility issues, that you may 8 certainly highlight those, but that the Court would find no 9 relevance or probative value, with all due respect to other 10 judges, in a mere determination that there was insufficient 11 evidence --12 MR. O'BRIEN: Understood, Your Honor. 13 THE COURT: -- that do not have any bearing upon Mr. Burke's credibility. 14 MR. O'BRIEN: No, I understand, Your Honor. And just 15 16 another -- I really just have another question on this opinion and would move on. But the Court that we're talking about in 17 this decision here, Your Honor, is contradiction of prior 18 19 deposition testimony against an affirmation. 20 So this is the language that is highlighted near 21 Burke Affidavit Exhibit 4 in which the Court says the plaintiff 22 may not rely on an affidavit, in this case, an affirmation, 23 which contradicts his prior deposition testimony. So it goes 24 to inconsistencies between sworn testimony and affirmation. 25 That was the only --

THE WITNESS: That's your words. It should simply say it contradicts, and I agree that the Court, it did contradict it because the information I gleaned at a later time upon my deposition of Mr. Brown.

BY MR. O'BRIEN:

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- Q. Okay. And you --
- 7 Drawing a conclusion. Α.
- 8 Ο. The Second Circuit affirmed the dismissal of your case in
- 9 Burke v. Evans; is that right?
- 10 I'd point out, Mr. O'Brien, if I didn't lose this case, I Α.
- 11 would not have got a bill of costs, and I wouldn't have found
- 12 the overcharge.
- 13 Well, sir, that's not exactly my question; my question was Q.
- that the Second Circuit affirmed the dismissal of the lower 14
- court here, right? 15
- 16 That's correct.
- 17 And also they did that in a summary order, right? Q.
- 18 Yes. Α.
- 19 And then that's when you subsequently got the bill
- 20 of costs, right?
- 21 I believe that I may have done a motion for hearing, but Α.
- 22 at some point, I did get a motion for costs, yes.
- 23 At some point, did you also send a letter to Senator
- Charles Schumer about this case? 24
- 25 I approached a number of politicians and media individuals

1 THE WITNESS: Sure. 2 THE COURT: Your lawyer has objected to the question. 3 MR. O'BRIEN: Mr. Burke has indicated he's willing 4 to answer it, but, in any event, it does, I believe, Your 5 Honor, go to bias. 6 THE COURT: There is an objection pending. 7 MR. O'BRIEN: Yeah. 8 THE COURT: The Court is prepared to sustain the 9 objection. I have not heard any proffer from you, Mr. 10 O'Brien, regarding why the letter would be relevant to any 11 issue having to do with liability. 12 MR. O'BRIEN: Sure. THE COURT: Should there be some other issue that 13 14 emerges at some later point, the Court can address it then. MR. O'BRIEN: Well, there are two other issues if I 15 16 may, Your Honor; one would be for vexatiousness. I mean under the False Claims Act statute, if there is evidence of 17 18 vexatiousness, it's the defendant's right to ask about that. 19 So not as to liability, but vexatiousness would be one ground. 20 THE COURT: Is that the issue to which you believe 21 it's relevant? 22 MR. O'BRIEN: I do, Your Honor. 23 THE COURT: Mr. King? 24 MR. KING: If I could just ask Mr. O'Brien to 25 clarify.

1 MR. O'BRIEN: Sure. 2 MR. KING: The point is that evidence of 3 vexatiousness, that's a liability under the Act? 4 MR. O'BRIEN: No. Under 31 U.S.C. 3730(d)4, Your 5 Honor, the -- we're entitled to ask questions or lay a 6 foundation for vexatiousness to recover attorney's fees and 7 costs as the defendant in a case like this, so I think that under that section of the False Claims Act alone, we would be 8 9 entitled to ask questions on that. 10 THE COURT: So you do not contend that the answer is 11 relevant at all to liability? 12 MR. O'BRIEN: That's right, Your Honor. We're not 13 asking it with respect to liability, it goes to the vexatiousness issue. 14 15 MR. KING: Your Honor --16 THE COURT: Mr. King, with the understanding that the question is coming in for that limited purpose, although, we --17 18 the Court has made no finding regarding liability at this 19 point, in order to streamline the proceeding, is there any 20 objection to the question being asked now while Mr. Burke is 21 on the stand? 22 MR. KING: That's fine. 23 THE COURT: And you will, of course, have the 24 opportunity to redirect. 25 MR. KING: I would point out that the Rule 11 motion

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But in the interest of streamlining, for the limited purpose of whether or not this is vexatiousness, it is -- I will not object on that.

THE COURT: Very well. Thank you very much, Mr. King. The objection has been withdrawn, so, Mr. Burke, let's ask Mr. O'Brien to repeat the question. We've had so much dialog --

THE WITNESS: Yes. Could you please repeat the question?

THE COURT: Please state your question, and, then, Mr. Burke, you will answer the question.

BY MR. O'BRIEN:

- Q. Sure. Mr. Burke, you contacted Senator Schumer at some point in connection with this case; is that right?
- A. Mr. O'Brien, I'd like to point out that my understanding is --
  - Q. I'm sorry, sir. That's a very simple question. Just, you did write a letter to Senator Charles Schumer about this case, right?
    - A. I wrote a letter to the head of the joint committee on printing, who has jurisdiction over the Government Printing

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Office.
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                   But you also wrote a letter to Senator Charles
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       Schumer, right?
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            Well, that is Senator Charles Schumer. He's the head of
       Α.
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       the joint committee on print --
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            Thank you. Let's go ahead and mark -- I'm sorry.
       Q.
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       don't have to mark it. If I may approach the witness?
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                 THE COURT: You may.
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                 MR. O'BRIEN: Thank you, Your Honor.
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       BY MR. O'BRIEN:
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            And for -- Mr. Burke, for your convenience, we've also
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       put it up on the screen in front of you, and it's also on Judge
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       Robinson's screen. So Mr. Burke, this is the letter from you
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       to Senator Schumer, and it's dated May 8th, 2009, right?
           Correct.
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       Α.
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            It's also -- you've also sent it to "TWIMC", I take it
       that's "To Whom It May Concern"?
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            Correct.
       Α.
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            Now, you wrote to Senator Schumer that you were suing
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       Record Press in the name of the people to recover paid
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       fraudulent claims; am I right?
22
       Α.
            That's what it says, yes.
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            And you also gave Senator Schumer this Court's case
       Q.
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       number, right; 08-CV-364?
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                 MR. KING: Your Honor, objection. The document
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speaks for itself. If Mr. O'Brien wants to ask some other question other than what the document says, I can understand, but we can all read the document.

THE COURT: The objection is sustained.

## BY MR. O'BRIEN:

- Well, did you invite Mr. -- rather Senator Schumer's office to submit an amicus curiae in the case before this Court right now?
- Well, it says you are welcome to supply an amicus curiae, but that's not -- wasn't my request. So you may request for something else other than that.
- 12 Were you welcome to the Senator to submit an amicus curie Ο. in this case? 13
  - Well, I said his offices, it may not be him personally. Α. Perhaps, his counsel or the government joint committee on printing's counsel.
    - Did you ask Senator Schumer to send a FOIA to the Inspector General at the Department of Justice?
  - That was my request or request for information.
  - Did you tell Senator Schumer that, quote: Thousands of New York citizens individually defrauded, as well as taxpayers?
    - I made an assumption that there was a number other people who were served with these bills of costs. It turns out that was incorrect information, but, of course, if they were

- 1 overcharging the government, then all citizens would be 2 defrauded.
  - Did you approach the New York Post about the case before 0. this Court?
  - Α. Yes.
- 6 Q. Did you contact a reporter named Mr. Golding(Phonetic) 7 about this story?
- 8 Α. Yes.

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- 9 Q. Did you try to get the New York Post to do a story on 10 Record Press' alleged fraud?
- 11 Α. Well, I wouldn't characterize what the New York Post would 12 or would not do. I gave them information.
- 13 Well, was it your hope that the New York Post would do a Q. story on Record Press' alleged fraud? 14
- I would hope that the public would be informed about 15 situations such as that. 16
- In your letter to Senator Schumer and to whom it may 17 18 concern, nowhere in this letter do you name Calvin Adgerson,
- That's correct. 20

correct?

- 21 But this is in May 2009 that you wrote this letter, right? Ο.
- 22 I guess I don't understand the question, counsel. Why Α.
- 23 would that be -- why would I put his name in there? I don't 24 understand.
  - It's a simple question, sir. I'm just asking you as of

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May 8th, 2009, when you're writing to Senator Schumer, you don't name Calvin Adgerson, right?

- What would I name him as? Α.
- Sir, is it "yes" or "no"? Q.
- I didn't use Mr. Adgerson's name in this letter. I don't Α. understand the question, though.
  - 0. Sure. But -- thank you for answering. The question has been answered, but this is a year-and-a-half after you filed your verified complaint, right?
    - Again, I don't understand what -- why would I put his name in the paper that was filed -- I filed in the Burke versus Evans case on the day that I spoke to him.

THE COURT: I'm sorry. Mr. King, was there an objection to the question that was asked?

MR. KING: Objection. Again, on the grounds of the fact that this line of questioning is just asking Mr. Burke to confirm dates in the letter, et cetera. If the question has to do with why Mr. Burke didn't do something or did do something, I can understand, but just reiterating again what's in the letter, again, I would object on the same basis that the document speaks for itself.

THE COURT: The objection is sustained.

BY MR. O'BRIEN:

Did you believe, sir, after you got the bill of costs that individuals including yourself were defrauded when they lost

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cases in the Second Circuit?

- I have to acknowledge that I made an assumption that the U.S. Attorney's Office would -- identical to my case for people who lost cases filed bills of costs, and I certainly didn't think of any reason why they wouldn't. Upon further investigation, I couldn't find any other bills of costs on people who lost cases, which is, perhaps, another issue for some other forum, but I did have some incorrect information.
- Q. But my question is: At the time that you were putting together your complaint, did you believe that individuals, including yourself, were defrauded when they lost cases in the Second Circuit?
- I believed that it -- I did draw a conclusion that other Α. people were treated similarly to myself and given bills of costs or perhaps law firms were given bills of cost and paid them, and they would have been defrauded. If no other individuals or law firms were given bills of costs by the U.S. Attorney's Office in the Southern District of New York, then that information would not be accurate other than as taxpayers.
- But it was your belief that people who lost cases in the Second Circuit were being defrauded because they got overbilled; is that correct?
- That's correct. I, again, as Record Press is the contractor for the U.S. Attorney's Office, Southern District of

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New York or through the Government Printing Office, if they were also submit bill of costs by the Department of Justice and in that Second Circuit, then that presumption is they would have been identically defrauded as the attempt was against myself.

- And you told us earlier that in response to getting that Q. bill of costs, you notified the so-called joint committee on printing; is that right?
- Α. I understand under the Federal False Claims Act, I'm required to notify the appropriate author.
- Q. So you notified the joint committee on printing?
- 12 I notified employees of the joint committee on printing, Α. 13 yes.
  - And you also contacted Congress; is that right? Q.
    - The joint committee on printing is a congressional Α. organization, and I understand the Government Printing Office is a Congressional agency. They have complete authority over the Government Printing Office. So the joint committee, the Senate and the House of Representatives, so, of course, by contacting the joint committee on printing, I would be contacting Congress, yes, that's correct.
    - And you also contacted the Senate; is that right? Q.
    - Yes. They are part of the joint committee on printing. Α.
    - Sir, the New York Post never did a story on this; is that 0. right?

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- Α. To my knowledge, they have not yet done a story on this, no.
  - Are you aware that the GPO investigated your complaint Ο. against Record Press?
  - I hope so. I was supposed to get a closing report, but I Α. have not gotten any information on that filing.
- 0. Well, you were aware that the GPO found no fraud, right, sir?
  - Excuse me? Could you repeat that question? Α.
- 10 Yes. You're aware that the GPO found no fraud with Q. 11 respect to your complaint; is that correct?
  - MR. KING: Objection. Speculation.
  - THE COURT: Can you rephrase your question please, Mr. O'Brien?
- MR. O'BRIEN: Yes, Your Honor. 15
- BY MR. O'BRIEN: 16
  - Let me ask a different question if I may then. It might help clarify; you're aware that the GPO presented information to your counsel that there was no fraud found with respect to your complaint about Mr. Wilmot and Record Press, right?
  - Are you talking about the Inspector General of the GPO or the GPO itself that got the seven percent?
    - Sir, I'm talking about whether you're aware in September of 2009 if that senior GPO representatives presented information to your counsel showing that there was no fraud

THE COURT: Very well. In that event, Mr. Burke, you

1 MR. LOMAS: Yes, Your Honor. 2 THE COURT: Will you be prepared at that time to 3 respond to the motion, Mr. King? 4 I ask the question that way because we do have some 5 degree of flexibility. This is a bench trial. I can take a 6 brief recess; you can proceed with your motion, and I can hear 7 your response tomorrow. I can hear the motion and the response 8 tomorrow. 9 Perhaps, the thing to do is to take a recess of, 10 let's say, 20 minutes. I will hear the motion, and then if you 11 wish me to wait until tomorrow for you to have an opportunity 12 to reply, we can do that. 13 MR. KING: Okay. Thank you, Your Honor. THE COURT: Very well. For now, we'll take a 20-14 minute recess. Thank you. 15 16 (Whereupon, there was a brief recess; thereafter, court resumed as follows:) 17 18 THE COURT: We're back on the record now. Mr. King, 19 did you have an opportunity to review your exhibit list and 20 compare it to the list maintained by the clerk? 21 MR. KING: Yes, Your Honor. And the only document I 22 had that has not --23 THE COURT: Let me ask you to come back to the podium, 24 please. 25 MR. KING: I'm sorry. The only document that I have

1 that has not been offered yet is the expert report. 2 MR. O'BRIEN: Your Honor, we would object to the 3 entry of the expert report. No witness testified about --4 THE COURT: Well, I was prepared to ask a question or 5 What is the basis of your request to admit the report? 6 The expert has testified, of course, and has been excused. And 7 no questions were asked by you regarding the report while the 8 expert was present. So what is the basis now for moving to 9 admit the report? 10 MR. KING: Well, the report provides the information, 11 you know, the supplementary information upon which the expert 12 formed his opinions, and I understood that the expert filed his 13 report with the Court. It was very clear that he was 14 submitting this report pursuant to the testimony that he was going to offer, and this is the documentation that supports his 15 16 testimony. I wouldn't need him to authenticate it because it's 17 18 already very clearly his expert report. It's just a request 19 that the -- having the testimony before the Court, having heard 20 his testimony, that his report now be admitted in support of 21 his testimony. 22 THE COURT: Mr. Lomas or Mr. O'Brien -- thank you, 23 King. You may have a seat for the moment. Mr. Lomas? 24 MR. LOMAS: Thank you, Your Honor. The expert report 25 is hearsay. If Mr. King wanted to elicit background and

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support of Mr. Gocial's opinion, he could have done so on the We have had no opportunity to cross-examine Mr. Gocial on anything that is in that expert report.

And just with respect to being that it was filed with the Court, of course, the Court struck the filing as improper because it's an expert report, it was just the discovery matter to be served on the parties; but, again, in the end, I mean, it's a hearsay statement, and we have had no opportunity to cross-examine Mr. Gocial so it's improper to be admitted at this time. Thank you.

THE COURT: Thank you, Mr. Lomas. To the extent that there is a request pending to admit the report as an exhibit, the Court will deny the request. The Court finds that the exhibit is not admissible largely for the reasons offered by counsel for the defendant.

The Court did not read the exhibit, and I recall that when we were last in court, the Court noted on the record that the Court took great pains to avoid reading the report and addressed without regard to the contents of the report, the motions that were pending at that time concerning the testimony or anticipated testimony of Mr. Gocial, so the Court has not seen the report.

In any event, Mr. Gocial was present and testified in response to the questions that were asked of him regarding what he considered in formulating his opinion. So there is no

1 prejudice to the plaintiff, and, indeed, the report would 2 likely not have been received into evidence in any circumstance 3 since the report is hearsay. 4 The report is a -- typically, as in this case, the 5 report was provided in accordance with the rules governing 6 discovery and would not be -- would not be regarded as evidence 7 in the ordinary circumstance, particularly, whereas here the 8 witness was present and testified regarding the basis of his 9 opinion and indeed stated his opinion. 10 For those reasons, the Court will deny the request to 11 admit the report into evidence. 12 Now, Mr. King, with regard to your other exhibits? 13 MR. KING: No other exhibit, Your Honor. THE COURT: So let me remind you to come back to 14 podium, please. So do you rest at this time? 15 16 MR. KING: Yes, Your Honor. The plaintiff has no other exhibits or witnesses to call. 17 18 THE COURT: Very well. Thank you, Mr. King. MR. KING: Thank you, Your Honor. 19 20 THE COURT: Now, Mr. Lomas. 21 MR. LOMAS: Yes, Your Honor. As I mentioned before 22 we broke, we would like to move for judgment under 52(c), but 23 for the convenience of one of the witnesses, Mr. Sullivan, who 24 is here and has been patiently waiting, we would be willing to 25 go forward with Mr. Sullivan's testimony, who we would be

may call Mr. Sullivan.

MR. LOMAS: Thank you. Yes. And, also, Mr. Valdez, again, is here, and he would like to be at counsel's table while Mr. Sullivan is present if that's okay with Your Honor.

THE COURT: Is that again without objection, Mr.

11 King?

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MR. KING: Yes, Your Honor.

THE COURT: Very well, thank you. Mr. Valdez, you may return to the well of the court, and, Mr. Lomas, you may call Mr. Sullivan.

MR. LOMAS: Thank you. Record Press calls Mr. Sullivan to the stand.

THE COURT: Now, good afternoon. Let me ask you, sir, to please face the deputy clerk to be sworn.

RAYMOND SULLIVAN, called as a witness in this case, after having been duly sworn, testified as follows:

THE COURT: Now, good afternoon. Mr. Lomas.

DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. LOMAS:

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- Q. Good afternoon, Mr. Sullivan. Could you please state your name?
- Raymond Sullivan. Α.
- And do you work for the Government Printing Office? Q.
- 5 Α. Yes.
  - Q. And how long have you worked for the Government Printing Office?
  - Α. Approximately 35 years.
    - And could you tell us about your history with the Q. Government Printing Office? Did you -- when did you start with them?
    - I started with the Government Printing Office straight out of college, was hired into a management trainee program; a three-year program. After that, I became a printing specialist, was involved in writing, certifying, and awarding contracts.

From there I became involved in automation efforts; did a lot of work on printing cost estimating systems and electronic procurement systems within GPO. I moved from there to a staff director position where I wrote policy and regulation and contract terms. After that, I moved to a position of over a division called the "Term Contracts Division", which is the type of contract that is in question. I supervised that division that specifically related -- worked on these types of contracts.

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After that I moved to a position of -- my title was "Director of Major Acquisitions". I handled large scale acquisitions such as a worldwide A-76 contract for all of the State Department printing areas and the 2010 census. My current title is I am "Acting Managing Director of Customer Services", which oversees all of the print procurement functions at the GPO.

- Q. The printing procurement functions, is that referring to printing that's procured from outside vendors?
- Correct. Α.
- 11 Q. Would -- such as one of those outside vendors be Record 12 Press, for example?
  - Yes. Α.
  - So throughout your time at the GPO, have you had the Q. opportunity to review contracts with vendors, outside vendors, for printing services?
- 17 I have done that pretty much my whole career. Α.
  - And what is your position now -- how is that in relation on an organization chart, for example, with respect to the head of GPO?
  - The head of the agency is the public printer. There is an Α. assistant public printer beneath him, and I report directly to that person.
  - Okay. Now, are you familiar with the Record Press contract that is -- that this case is about?

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- Α. I have reviewed that contract, yes.
- And when did you first review that contract? Q.
- I want to say at August of 2009, I was asked to fill in Α. for a director who was over the east coast regional offices who had been reviewing this case and was retiring, and I was given this to review upon his retirement.
- Ο. So you were reviewing the contract in response to this case here?
  - Yeah. I believe that we were preparing to meet with Α. attorneys for both sides, and I was just going to give GPO's interpretation, and there were some questions on our procurement policies and practices that I was trying to answer.
  - And then what did your review for -- that you were just Q. discussing now, what did that entail?
  - Well, basically, I was told that there were questions concerning the billing and the interpretation of the contract, so I reviewed the contract. I reviewed the invoices; there were two invoices in particular that were in question. I reviewed those invoices.

I was looking -- this had been reviewed multiple times before. Our financial management area had reviewed it; a director in our financial management area had reviewed it. The director who I was taking over had reviewed it. I believe our inspector general had reviewed it several times.

So I was just one final review to familiarize myself

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       before I sat down with the attorneys, but I was just looking
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       for any improper billing or anything wrong with the way the
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       contract was written.
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            Did you find anything wrong with any of the billings under
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       that contract?
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            No.
                The invoices that I looked at were billed correctly.
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       I believed that the contract was interpreted clearly by the
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       contractor and GPO. There was a meeting of the minds, and I
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       did not see any irregularities.
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            So Record Press did not -- did Record Press, excuse me --
       Q.
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       did Record Press overcharge the GPO in those two invoices for
12
       collating, trimming to size, and binding?
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                In my review, it revealed that they billed exactly
       Α.
       according to the contract.
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            Okay. I'd like you to refer what was previously marked as
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       Plaintiff's Exhibit A. I don't know if it's on the witness
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       stand or if we can have the clerk hand you the --
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                 THE COURT: There's a copy of Exhibit A there.
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                 MR. LOMAS: It was previously moved --
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                 THE DEPUTY CLERK: I don't have any exhibits --
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                 THE COURT: Mr. Sullivan, are you able to read what
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       was just posted on the screen?
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                 THE WITNESS: Let me try with my glasses on.
24
       sorry.
              Uh, yes.
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       BY MR. LOMAS:
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1	Q. Okay. And this was previously marked as Plaintiff's
2	Exhibit A, and if you look on the pages marked RP-52, is this
3	the contract that you reviewed?
4	A. I have a copy of a bid form in front of me.
5	MR. LOMAS: Can I hand you another copy? I handed
6	the clerk another copy of
7	THE COURT: Oh, you're getting a hard copy of the
8	exhibit now.
9	MR. LOMAS: Yes; okay. Again, that's the exhibit
L O	that was previously entered as Plaintiff's Exhibit A.
11	BY MR. LOMAS:
L2	Q. Now, Mr. Sullivan, is that the contract that you
L3	reviewed?
4	A. Yes, it is.
L5	Q. How was this contract formed?
L6	A. The our basic contracting, we're responsible as an
L 7	organization for procuring printing for all of the agencies
8	within the federal government, legislative, executive, and
L 9	judicial. We usually get a request from the agency; it might
20	be Treasury or Internal Revenue Service or the U.S. Attorney's
21	Office to write a contract. We develop an invitation for bid.
22	Most of these contracts are handled as sealed bids.
23	So we would develop an invitation for bid; that bid would
24	normally be distributed to approximately 20 to 40 contractors.
25	It would be posted online, and then there would be a public bid

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1 opening in which the bids were read.

> We would then -- it would go to a printing specialist who would review the actual bids, check them for price reasonableness, verify that the low contractor was capable of actually producing the product, and we also maintain detailed performance history on all of our vendors.

> So we would review performance history and just to make sure that we were awarding to the low responsive, responsible contractor. Award would then be made based through a purchase order issued to the contractor, the low contractor.

Was there -- are there any documents that are sent with Q. the request for bid to potential contractors, at least -- let me rephrase that. Excuse me.

Were there any documents sent with this particular invitation for bid to potential contract vendors?

- I believe the previous abstract, which is the last page of this document I am looking at, was sent along with this contract.
- On the screen, if we could go to Page 69 of Plaintiff's Exhibit A, and is the page that you're talking about, the abstract, is that the page that's marked at the bottom, RP-69?
- Α. Yes.
- And could you tell us about -- could you tell the Court Q. about what this is, this abstract is?
- Basically, this abstract, when we go out for bid on a term

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contract, we're not sure exactly what products we're going to be buying, and there's a range of products. So we'll break down the product by various line items, either pages or covers, or whether it drills or not drills and receive prices for those individual line items, and we develop a basis of award.

This abstract, basically, we take the bids that come in for the individual line items from the various printing companies, enter them into this abstract, which would give us a total dollar value for a year estimated on our basis of award figures. We use it for comparing line items across -- like if I had 10 contractors bidding, I could look at an individual line item across and pick out any discrepancies or abnormalities in the pricing.

- So do the line items on this spreadsheet match the line Q. items that are in the invitation for bid?
- Well, in this particular case, the abstract, this abstract, would be a copy of the previous contract. In other words, it was -- this abstract -- there was a contract prior to I don't know how many years, but this abstract would include all of the prices from the previous contract.

So it's possible that there were some changes in this contract. I don't believe there were.

So the abstract reflects bids -- are you saying the abstract reflects bids that were made under the prior term of this contract?

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- Α. This particular abstract I'm looking at now does, yes.
- And so why would this abstract be sent by the GPO to the Q. vendors that were bidding on the new contract?
- There's multiple reasons: One is we want them to know --Α. our goal is to get the best possible prices we can for our customers. We tend -- our bid prices tend to be very competitive. A lot of times, we'll have new vendors coming in.

By attaching this abstract, they know right away who their competition is, who bid on this last time, how the prices are running, whether they are capable of competing with them or not competing and would also clear up any, you know, exactly how we're going to be pricing that, any interpretation issues.

- So when you say that the bidding is very competitive, and Q. it sort of helps -- did you say it sort of helps identify whether -- helps vendors identify whether they're able to compete on the bid?
- Α. Sure.
  - And so, for instance, -- so could you explain that? Does that mean, for instance, that the vendor might not be able to have a price that low enough to make the bid?
  - Right. A lot of times we'll find that vendors want to Α. compete, but once they see the pricing that we're getting, they'll either make a decision, okay, I'm not -- I can't compete in that printing vendor.

Some of them compete on price. Some of them compete more

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on service. You know, so it depends on the particular contract, but, yes, we save ourselves a lot of trouble and also the printing firms a lot of trouble if they can see what the competition pool is up front.

Now, I'd like to refer you to the section on this spreadsheet that has a group of line items under the Roman Numeral II on the left column, and if you look on the screen, it's kind of been blown up for you a little bit so you can see more clearly.

You mentioned, I think, that the spreadsheet gives some information about how the GPO accepts -- expects there to be prices for certain of the line items. Does this portion here provide that information?

- Yes. Α.
- And so what does this say -- what information does this communicate to potential vendors about the line item to a complete cover?
- Complete cover will be price per 10 copies.
- 19 Then what does it communicate to a potential vendor about 20 line item 2-B, text per page?
  - The exact same thing, will be priced per 10 copies. Α.
- 22 How about with respect to line item "C", pressure Q. 23 sensitive cover stock?
  - Cover stock will be per 100 leaves.
    - Ο. Then what about with respect to line item 2-D, collating,

- trimming to size, and binding?
- 2 That would be per 100 page.
- 3 So would a per-10-copy running rate also apply to the line 0.
- 4 item 2-D, collating, trimming to size, and binding?
- 5 No, obviously not. Α.
- 6 Q. Okay. If you could flip back to the page marked RP-67 of
- 7 Plaintiff's Trial Exhibit A.
- 8 Α. (Witness complies.) Okay.
- 9 Q. Okay. And then do you see on that page, RP-67, is there a
- 10 line item there for collating, trimming to size, and binding?
- 11 Α. Yes.
- 12 What is the price that's in this bid for that line item? Ο.
- 13 \$12.25 per 100 pages. Α.
- Does the per-10-copy running rate apply to that price? 14 Q.
- 15 Α. No.
- 16 Q. Which line items does the per-10-copy running rate apply
- 17 to on this page?
- 18 On this page, it would apply to the complete cover and the
- 19 text per page.
- 20 And how do you know that? Q.
- 21 Well, there's multiple reasons: One, if you're looking at Α.
- 22 "C", leaves, and C-1 and C-2, obviously, that already has per
- 100 leaves "D" has per 100 pages; "A" and "B" do not. 23
- running per copy or the running rate is normally something that 24
- 25 we use to apply to a machine production. It's -- in most

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printing, most of our printing contracts, we have a make ready charge.

It costs a certain amount of money to prepare a piece of equipment to get it ready to run something, but once it starts running, that cost, the running rate, is different. So the larger the runs, the cheaper it will be, and that's the way we would normally price printing.

Here, we're looking at copying; because it's copying, we don't have a make-ready, but we're still using the term "running rate".

- Q. Okay. So would other individuals in the printing industry, vendors and so forth, know that a running rate would not apply to things like the pressure sensitive cover stock, and collating, trimming to size, and binding?
- Sure. That would be common knowledge in the printing Α. industry, and particularly in our -- we have a very restricted community of bidders. We have maybe 10,000 printers nationwide that bid strictly on government work, so it's a small community, and one of the advantages that we have in our procurement operations, one of the reasons we get such effective pricing is that there is -- the communication between us, we have people that are experts in printing buying printing from these people, so everybody understands what we're talking about.

It reduces the risk to the printer because they know that

1 we have evaluated this and that we're telling them all of the 2 attributes that are going to be purchased under this contract. 3 I'd like to refer you now to what was marked as 4 Plaintiff's Exhibit D. Do you have a copy of that to hand the 5 witness? Or --6 THE DEPUTY CLERK: I don't have any copies. 7 THE COURT: Are you able to read the copy on the 8 screen? 9 THE WITNESS: Yes. With some difficulty, but I can 10 read it. 11 MR. LOMAS: Oh, okay. Well, if you can read the copy 12 on the screen --BY MR. LOMAS: 13 Q. All right. So this is the invoice that's A-71700 and was 14 previously entered in as Plaintiff's Trial Exhibit D with the 15 16 reference RP-659 at the bottom. 17 Mr. Sullivan, is this one of the invoices that you 18 mentioned you reviewed earlier in response to this case? 19 Yes. Α. 20 And do you see in the middle of the page, is there a 21 charge there for collating, trimming to size, and binding? 22 Yes, there is. Α. 23 And what was the price -- what was the amount charged Q. 24 there? 25 The amount charged is \$372.40.

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- Q. And what was the price that was charged?
- The price listed here is -- let's see if I can -- somebody 2 3 just put something up in front of me that --
  - Let me ask that question, again: What is the price for Q. the collating, trimming to size, and binding charge that's
- 6 listed on this invoice
- 7 The total price is -- it keeps bouncing around. The total 8 price is -- are we done? Okay. The total price is \$372.40.
- 9 Q. What was the rate that was charged for collating, trimming 10 to size, and binding on this invoice?
- 11 It looks like they have that broken down here as 12.25 per Α. 12 100 pages.
- 13 And is that the contract price? Q.
- Yes. 14 Α.
  - So is the charge here that Record Press billed the -excuse me -- is the charge for collating, trimming to size, and binding that Record Press billed the GPO for this case correct?
- 18 Yes. Α.
- 19 Now, I'd like to refer you to what was marked as 20 Plaintiff's Exhibit C, and, hopefully, we'll bring that up on 21 the screen for you. Okay. So on the screen you should see a 22 copy of what is titled Invoice A-71701, which was previously 23 marked as Plaintiff's Exhibit C and has the production number at the bottom, RP-660; is this the second invoice that you 24

reviewed when you -- in response to this matter?

1 A. Yes.

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- Q. And is there a charge for collating, trimming to size, and binding on this invoice?
  - A. Yes, there is.
- Q. And what is the amount that Record Press billed for
- 6 collating, trimming to size, and binding in this invoice?
- 7 | A. \$1,386.70.
  - Q. And what was the price rate that Record Press charged?
- 9 A. 12.25 per 100 pages.
- 10 | Q. And was that the contract price?
- 11 | A. Yes.
- 12 | Q. And is this -- is the amount that Record Press charged
- 13  $\parallel$  for collating, trimming to size, and binding in this invoice
- 14 the correct amount pursuant to the contract?
- 15 A. Yes, it is.
- 16  $\parallel$  Q. Now, if a running rate per-10-copy would apply to this
- 17 | line item, what would it do to the amount?
- 18  $\parallel$  A. It would divide them by 10, and part of my review of this
- 19 thing when you -- if you took that logic, these prices would
- 20 become unreasonable.
- 21  $\parallel$  Q. So when you say you would divide it by 10, would the price
- 22 then be just 10 percent of what it is, the amount be just 10
- 23 percent of what it is on this invoice?
- 24 A. Correct.
- 25  $\parallel$  Q. And so just roughly, is that a reduction of a little bit

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over a thousand dollars; is that right?

- I'm not sure I can do the math that quick in my head. don't --
- Fair enough. In any event, you said such a reduction Q. would be -- what was your word, unreasonable?
- I think it's unreasonable when you try to apply that to the other line items, in particular, one of the things I'm looking at here would be pressure sensitive cover stock, which is \$12.50 per 100 leaves. If you applied the 10-copy-rate to that, then you'd be down to \$1.25 for a hundred leaves of pressure sensitive cover stock, which I would determine unreasonable.
  - If the per-10-copy running rate applied and the amount for Q. collating, trimming to size, and binding would be reduced by 90 percent, would the GPO be able to find a contractor that could do this work for that amount of money?
  - Well, I don't believe anybody would bid those types of prices. If I saw those prices that low, I would question it as far as whether or not there had been an error made in the bid process.
- Sullivan, did you provide the results of your Now, Mr. review, this information we're just discussing, to Mr. Burke or his counsel?
  - I believe that I met with previous counsel. Again, I think that was in September of '09, yes.

Α. I did.

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- Did you provide a copy of -- or did you provide any Q. documentary evidence?
- I don't believe so. Α.

MR. LOMAS: I'm handing to the clerk and ask that it be marked as Defendant's Exhibit 1 and if you could pass to the witness?

THE DEPUTY CLERK: Thank you.

BY MR. LOMAS:

- Sullivan, you've been handed what has been marked as Defendant's Exhibit 1. If you could take a moment to look at this document and see if it helps you remember if you provided anything to -- any documents to Mr. Burke's counsel during that September 2009 meeting?
- Yes. Yes. This was provided.
- And what is this document? 17 Q.
- 18 This is a copy of the abstract from the current contract.
- So the contract that we discussed earlier which was marked 19 20 as Plaintiffs's Exhibit A, the Record Press/GPO contract?
  - Correct. Α.
- 22 If I can refer you to the portion again with Roman numeral Q.
- 23 II, that identifies the different line items, and,
- 24 specifically, line item 2-D, the collating, trimming to size,
- 25 and binding line item; what does this abstract say about that

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       line item?
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            Per 100 pages.
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            And is Record Press' price under the contract indicated
       Ο.
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       there?
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           Yes; $12.25.
       Α.
 6
       Q.
           And is $12.25 per 100 pages the contract price?
 7
       Α.
           Yes.
8
       Q.
            And does the per-10-copy running rate apply to that line
9
       item?
10
           No, it does not.
       Α.
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                 MR. LOMAS: Your Honor, at this time, I'd like to
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       move this exhibit, Defendant's Exhibit 1, into evidence.
                 THE COURT: Is that without objection, Mr. King?
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                 MR. KING: No objection.
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                 THE COURT: Very well. Defendant's Exhibit 1 will be
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16
       admitted without objection.
       BY MR. LOMAS:
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           Mr. Sullivan, despite Mr. Burke's lawsuit, does the GPO
       still contract with Record Press?
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            Yes, we do. This was a one year contract with four option
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       years, and the final option year was exercised I believe in
       November of 2010.
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            So the GPO exercised their option again?
       Q.
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       Α.
           Yes.
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       Ο.
            And is the price in this contract still $12.25 per 100
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pages for the collating, trimming to size, and binding line item?

- Yes, it is. Α.
- And does the per-10-copy running rate still not apply? Q.
- Α. Yes.

MR. LOMAS: Thank you. I have no further questions.

THE COURT: Thank you, Mr. Lomas. Mr. King, you

may cross-examine.

## CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. KING:

- Good afternoon, Mr. Sullivan. Thank you for your time Q. today.
- Α. Good afternoon.
- 13 If you take a look at the exhibit that defendant's just Q.
- 14 offered you, it's Defendant's Exhibit 1. It's this abstract.
- 15 If you take a look at the column labeled "Basis of Award" --
- 16 have you identified that column?
- Yes. 17 Α.
- What does the basis of award refer to? 18
- 19 Let's see if I can explain this simply. We -- when an
- 20 agency would come to us for the establishment of a new
- 21 contract, say the very first time they come to setup a contract
- 22 and say it's for briefs or something like that, what we try to
- 23 determine is how much work is going to be placed on that
- 24 contract.

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So we would ask them, okay, how many orders are you going

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to place; how many pages are each order going to be; how many of the orders are going to have proofs; how many orders are going to be on this type of stock or this particular trim size, and that estimate is what we use as a basis of award.

And then that is entered into the invitation for bid, and on this -- when the bids come back, those basis numbers are multiplied by the unit item prices to give us an estimate for the total dollar value of that contract for a year.

And that is actually what we base our award on, would be the contractor that came up with the lowest dollar figure, on that basis of award, but it's a -- the simplest way I can put it, it's our best guess of what is going to happen on that contract for the next year for each of those line items.

- Then is it the case that if -- well, let's look directly Q. at it, then, for line item 2-D under this abstract, the basis of award is 14?
- Uh-huh. Α.
- Does that refer to 14 pages or 14 copies or 14 jobs or, 18 you know, what --
  - That would refer to 1,400 pages.
  - That would refer to 1,400 pages. Q.
    - You have a per-100-page price, and we're saying that's --Α. our guess was that's going to happen 14 times. So, basically, over the term of this contract, we were estimating that that would be 1,400 pages.

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       Q.
            Okay. You stated also that the way basis of award is used
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       to provide that total estimate is that you take that basis of
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       award of 14, you multiple it by the unit rate, and the unit
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       rate is the price that the contracting partner -- party
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       submits; you multiply those two together, and you get your
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       total costs; is that correct?
 7
       Α.
            Correct.
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       Ο.
            Now, if you -- if the basis of award of 14 means it's
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       1,400 pages, why isn't that factored into the costs?
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                 MR. LOMAS: Objection. Vague.
       BY MR. KING:
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           Why isn't the rate of per 100 pages factored into the
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       costs?
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                 THE COURT: Objection withdrawn?
                 MR. LOMAS: No. I still believe it's vague, but --
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                 THE COURT: What is your objection, Mr. Lomas?
                 MR. LOMAS: Well, I just don't understand what the
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       question he's asking, so I don't know if the witness -- but it
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19
       seems vague to me.
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                 THE COURT: May I ask you to rephrase your question,
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       please, Mr. King?
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                 MR. KING: Yes.
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       BY MR. KING:
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            You said that -- I asked you what does 14 refer to; does
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       it refer to copies, pages, et cetera, right? And so, again,
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what was your answer to that question?

The 14 would -- in this particular case that we're talking about -- we're getting a price per 100 pages, and so we're trying to make an estimate over the next year how many times that's going to happen or what's the total bulk of this line item.

So what we're using here is this is 14 -- somebody made a guess that this was going to be 14; so you'd be 14 times 100 pages. So the quantity that we're talking about there would be 1,400 pages, and the dollar figure would be \$171.50 if that's what that says.

Okay. Now, I'm having difficulty understanding your calculations because you're referring to 14 times 100 pages, but then you refer to the cost of \$171.50; but that calculation is based on 14 times the unit rate of \$12.25.

So is it the case that \$171.50 is based on the basis of award times the unit rate or is it the case that \$171.50, the cost, is based on the basis of award times the per-page-amount of 100 per page?

- I'm not totally sure I understand what you're asking; the 171 is 14 times 12.25.
- That's right. Is the per-100-pages' rate for this line Q. item reflected at all in the cost of \$171.50?
- Yeah, I believe the per-100-page rate is \$12.25. So we're multiplying that times 14; so, yes, it is -- in that, it is in

Α.

Why?

1 BY MR. KING: 2 Okay. Do you agree that the number \$171.50 is a product 3 of the two numbers, 14 times \$12.25? 4 Yes, I do. Α. 5 Okay. Do you also agree then that \$171.50 does not Q. 6 include the per-100-page rate? 7 Α. I do not agree with that statement. Okay. How does that number reflect the per-100-page rate? 8 Ο. 9 If you have a something that you're trying to buy, and Α. 10 it's \$12.25 per 100, okay, and you're going to buy 14 of them, 11 you're going to end up with 1,400. In this case, 1,400 pages, 12 and you're going to pay \$171.50. 13 Okay. I think I understand what you're saying now. Q. You're saying that \$171.50 really represents a per-100-page 14 15 amount? 16 No. 17 Q. No? Are you sure? 18 Yes. \$12.25 is the per-100-page rate; 171 represents 14 times that, which was our estimate of the total number of pages 19 20 that would be procured under this for a year. 21 Okay. Then \$171.50, does that represent a per page Ο. 22 amount? 23 No. Α. 24 Q. Why?

Again, I'm not sure what question you're asking.

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BY MR. KING:

WENDY C. RICARD, RPR, CCR OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

THE COURT: Sustained.

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talking 10 copies.

So it's a quantity of what?

A. Covers.

copies --

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- Q. It's a quantity of what?
- 6 A. Complete covers.
- Q. Okay. And when you are calculating the costs here, you testified earlier that you do apply this per-10-copy rate here, but does this chart apply the per-10-copy rate?
- A. It applies it in the same way that the previous line item
  we were talking about applies it.
- 12 Q. Does it multiply the rate at all in the chart?
  - A. You'd have to rephrase that question for me.
- Q. When you say "apply", what do you mean by "apply"? You said that it applies the rate; what do you mean by "applies the rate"?
  - A. The calculations are based -- for this particular line item, we're talking complete cover per-10-copies. That works the same way as the line item before we were talking about collating per 100 pages, and I don't think I ever -- we ever communicated or I ever got to the point where there was an understanding, but -- of how those line items worked, but they work, but they both work identically.
  - Q. Uh-huh. When you say that the line item in this chart applied the per-10-copy rate, you're not saying that that rate

## BY MR. KING:

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Do you know what I mean by -- you know what I mean by multiplying, right?

> MR. O'BRIEN: Objection.

THE COURT: Sustained.

THE WITNESS: I believe I do.

## BY MR. KING:

- Okay. Is the per-10-copies rate here in line item 2-A Q. used in terms of multiplying it against the basis of award, the unit rate or the cost?
- 13 No, it is not. Α.
- 14 Okay. The cost there of, the total cost -- I'm reading it Q. as 7,962; do you also see that? 15
  - Α. Yes.
- Okay. That total cost there, then, that refers to copies 17 or covers or pages or what? 18
  - That is the estimated value for a number -- the basis of award number of covers for the year.
    - Q. Okay.
      - In this case, it would be -- and again I'm having trouble Α. seeing this, but 13,270 covers are what we estimated for the That dollar figure represents what it would cost for this particular vendor to supply that number of covers for one

year.

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Again, when you stated earlier that the rate in this abstract corresponds to the contract, and you had reviewed the contract and you reviewed the paragraph II, Roman numeral II, and below there was the line item D that referred to collating, trimming to size, and binding, and you determined that the running rate did not apply to that item, that line item --

THE COURT: I'm not certain that the record is clear that Mr. Sullivan agrees with your characterization of his testimony. So before you ask a question predicated upon an agreement, let me ask you to inquire whether Mr. Sullivan agrees that your summary is accurate.

MR. KING: Thank you, Your Honor.

BY MR. KING:

- Is that an accurate reflection of what you had stated Q. before?
- Could you give that to me again? It was quite a bit.
- Yes. I'm sorry. You had testified --Q.

THE COURT: Do you wish assistance from the court reporter to read the question back?

MR. KING: I don't think that's necessary. I'll just make the point that you testified earlier about the application of the running rate to those various line items in the contract itself; in the contract as opposed to this abstract.

THE WITNESS: Yes, I did.

BY MR. KING:

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- Okay. And in that testimony, you made distinctions between applying the running rate to certain line items and others.
- I did make those distinctions on the running per-10-copy Α. rate at the top of those columns, yes.
- 0. Uh-huh. And the basis was that the running rate would apply to A and B, but it did not apply to D?
- The running per-10-copies, that's correct. Α.
- 10 Did -- had you discussed this interpretation with Mr. Q.
- 11 Wilmot or anyone with Record Press prior to this contract
- 12 having been executed?
- 13 I have never met or had any discussions with Mr. Wilmot. Α.
- 14 Okay. Did you ever have an opportunity to review whether Q.
- or not the basis of award reflected in this abstract actually 15
- 16 corresponded to the proportion of the work actually done?
- Yes, I did. 17 Α.
- And what did you find? Did you find that they were, that 18
- this basis of award is accurate? 19
- There are figures in the basis of award that are not 20
- 21 accurate based on the -- again, it was an estimate up front
- 22 looking at the invoices. It was not totally accurate, which in
- 23 some cases would have been a concern for me.
- 24 But in this particular instance, since there was only one
- 25 bidder, again, that basis of award had no -- it served no

function as far as awarding this contract. One of the main functions of the basis of award would be to determine bidders' ranking, and there was only a single bidder on this contract.

MR. KING: Okay. No further questions. Thank you.

THE COURT: Thank you, Mr. King. Mr. Lomas, do you

MR. LOMAS: We do not, Your Honor. Thank you.

THE COURT: Very well. Thank you very much, Mr. Sullivan. You may step down. And, Mr. Valdez, I'll ask you to please return to the area outside the well of the court.

It is now approximately 20 minutes until five. My intention was to recess no later than five. If you believe, Mr. Lomas, that you can make your motion and complete your argument on it in 15 minutes, I will hear it now. Otherwise -and I will permit you to respond tomorrow, Mr. King, after you have had an opportunity to prepare to respond because your response would go beyond the time that we must recess for the

Alternatively, we will simply adjourn for the day now and resume tomorrow, and it will be in the afternoon, I am reminded, because of a scheduling conflict in the morning. Ιn other words, we will resume tomorrow at 2:00 p.m. for

MR. KING: Your Honor, if I may, I do have a matter

1 pending in another jurisdiction tomorrow that's very far away. 2 It is at 12 o'clock. I would not be able to return by two. I 3 can try to reschedule it, but the next day, the following day, 4 is great. 5 THE COURT: Bear with me one moment, please, while I 6 confer with the deputy clerk. 7 (Whereupon, there was a brief pause in the 8 proceedings.) 9 May I suggest later tomorrow; would you be available 10 tomorrow, Mr. King? For example, at 3:30 or even 4:00? 11 MR. KING: If I hurry, I could be here by four. I am -- you know, --12 13 THE COURT: Let me ask you to return to the podium, 14 please. MR. KING: Your Honor, the Court is I think a little 15 16 bit over three hours away, Salsbury, Maryland, and the hearing 17 is at 12. I can try to have the hearing moved up to an earlier 18 time, and I would be happy to do so. And I would be happy to 19 rush back here for four o'clock, but I just do want you to know 20 that it involves a long drive that could interfere with that 21 time. 22 THE COURT: How soon will you be able to determine 23 whether you would be able to advance the time of the matter 24 tomorrow? 25 MR. KING: In the morning, I would be able to make a

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determination about that, but, at this time, because it's after
four o'clock, the other parties are -- basically, their office
is closed after four, so I wouldn't be able to get a response
today.
          THE COURT: Perhaps, we better look at Wednesday
morning.
         Ms. Miller?
          THE DEPUTY CLERK: I'm sorry.
          THE COURT: Bear with us just one moment. Wednesday
at 9:30?
         MR. LOMAS: If I may, Your Honor, the motion is very
simple, and it would only take a few moments to go through, so
if Mr. King could respond afterwards today, I mean, in the
time that we have left -- can I offer that as a suggestion?
          THE COURT: Is everyone ready to continue at this
point?
         MR. KING: I'm not opposed to continuing at this
point.
         THE COURT: Very well. I believe we can proceed,
then.
         MR. LOMAS: Thank you, Your Honor. So Record Press
would like to move -- respectfully moves for judgment pursuant
to Rule 52(c), which states that if a party has been fully
heard on an issue during a non-jury trial, and the Court finds
against the party on that issue, the Court may enter judgment
against the party on a claim or defense that cannot -- that can
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be -- that under the controlling law can be maintained or defeated only with a favorable finding on that issue.

Now, this morning I read you a quote from another False Claims Act case: If both the contractor and the government interpret the contract one way throughout the contract's history, it is unthinkable that the contractor's billings which followed these common interpretation could constitute a false claim.

THE COURT: What is the citation to the case? MR. LOMAS: Yes, Your Honor. That's <u>U.S. Ex rel</u> McCoy v. Seaward Marine Services, 972 F 2d 344. The evidence at trial today, Your Honor, demonstrates that both Record Press and the Government Printing Office, the only two parties to the contract, understood that the collating, trimming to size, and binding price was \$12.25 per 100 pages throughout the entire term of the contract.

The contract was entered in when the GPO sent an invitation for bid to Record Press. The invitation for bid was attached -- there was a spreadsheet attached to that invitation for bids that stated that the price for collating, trimming to size, and binding should be billed on a per-100-page basis.

You heard the GPO witness, Mr. Sullivan, and you heard from Mr. Wilmot from Record Press that both confirmed that. You heard from Mr. Wilmot today from Record Press that Record Press submitted a bit of \$12.25 per 100 pages for that

1 line item. And then you heard from both Record Press and the 2 Government Printing Office, again, the only two parties to that 3 contract, that the government accepted that bid. 4 Sullivan specifically stated that there was a Mr. 5 meeting of the minds between the parties and that the contract 6 price for collating, trimming to size, and binding was \$12.25 7 per 100 pages. There was no dispute that the invoices clearly 8 state that Record Press charged \$12.25 per 100 pages. 9 Mr. Burke is not contesting that they aren't; he is 10 only contesting that the contract price is not \$12.25 per 100 pages, but it's fundamental contract law. The contract means 11 12 what the two parties to that contract say it means. 13 For example, this Court, in Youngblood versus <u>Vistrionics</u>, Civil Action no. 05-21, and the case cite there 14 is 2006 Westlaw 209-2636. This is just the case from --15 THE COURT: 209 --16 MR. LOMAS: Yes; 209-2636. This is a case in this 17 district from 2006. It is axiomatic that contracts should be 18 19 construed to a impart to party's intent. Clearly so, when as 20 in the instant case, neither party disputes that intent. 21 And, Your Honor, you heard today from both parties to 22 the contract, Record Press and the GPO -- there's never been 23 any doubt between those two parties as to what the contract 24 price was. It's clearly \$12.25 per 100 pages. 25 You heard today that even after Mr. Burke raised this

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claim and challenged the price that the GPO investigated, reviewed the contract, reviewed the invoices, found that -confirmed that the contract price was \$12.25 per 100 pages, confirmed that there was no overcharging, and confirmed that there was no fraud. Remember, this is not just a contract's case, this is a fraud case. The allegation here is that Record Press lied to the government, is defrauding the government. So what Mr. Burke would have you find -- would have the Court find, excuse me, is that when -- a party lying to the other party, when both parties agree on the same thing, that the contract price is \$12.25 per 100 pages. Burke offered no evidence suggesting that the contract price is anything otherwise. Again, we heard from the only two parties to the contract and about the formation; that we had a bid of the \$12.25 per 100 price and an acceptance.

the per-100-page aspect to it.

We heard from Mr. Sullivan that said that those in the printing industry would know that a per-10-copy running rate would not apply to a line item such as the line item 2-D for collating, trimming to size, and binding. It already had

So all we're left here is the opinion, apparently, of Burke that he doesn't like the price or that the price is Mr. wrong.

And, Your Honor, this Court has rejected finding any

1 false claim liability on the opinion of a non-party, a 2 non-party to a contract. Actually, I'd like to read you a --3 THE COURT: -- the opinion cited at -- reported at 4 2006 Westlaw --5 MR. LOMAS: No. Actually, I'm going to give you 6 another quote there, and the Court -- this Court said: It need 7 not -- and this was in another False Claims Act case, and that opinion was <u>U.S. Ex rel Herbert "v" National Academy of</u> 8 9 Sciences. That was Civil Action 90-2568; the cite is 1992 10 Westlaw 247587, and that was September 1992. 11 And this Court said: It need not address the dubious 12 proposition that plaintiff's personal opinion can be the basis 13 of a fraud suit, especially when the purported victim disagrees with that legal opinion. 14 Well, you heard today from the Government Printing 15 16 Office, the alleged victim here, there was no fraud. Government Printing Office reviewed the contract, reviewed the 17 invoices, confirmed that there was no fraud; that Record Press 18 19 had billed the correct contract price. 20 You heard from Mr. Sullivan with his 30 years of 21 experience in the industry say that it was clear to him by 22 looking at the contract that the contract price was \$12.25 per 23 100 pages. 24 And then after Burke raised this issue, what did the 25 GPO do? Reviewed, showed it was -- you know, found no fraud,

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and then renewed the contract two more times. They continue to work with Record Press. They continue to pay Record Press \$12.25 per 100 pages for the collating, trimming to size, and binding line item because that is what the parties agreed to do.

So there is no finding -- there can be no finding of the elements of a False Claim Act. There can be no falsity because the contract price is \$12.25 per 100 pages. There can be no knowing falsity because Record Press had always understood that the contract price was \$12.25 per 100 pages.

And there can be no materiality, there can be no -it didn't make a difference even if Mr. Burke's interpretation was correct because the GPO has heard Mr. Burke's interpretation, rejected it, and continued to pay the invoices to this day.

Thank you, Your Honor.

THE COURT: Thank you, Mr. Lomas. Mr. King? MR. KING: Your Honor, the only evidence before the

Court on the GPO's meeting of the minds in this contract is the testimony of Mr. Sullivan, who testified that he did not talk to Mr. Wilmot or anyone with Record Press at the time that the contract was formed. The testimony of Mr. Adgerson involved admissions that the GPO does misinterpret its contracts. testified that --

MR. LOMAS: Objection, Your Honor. Object to that

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characterization of Mr. Adgerson's testimony. I don't recall any time where he said that there was any issue --

THE COURT: I don't contemplate objections at this point. I was actually preparing to ask you, Mr. King, what is the testimony of Mr. Adgerson on that point to which you refer?

MR. KING: It was the testimony that had to do with Mr. Adgerson's role in what he does, And he testified to the fact that part of his job is to deal with times when they have -- when they have incorrectly interpreted a contract.

And, moreover, when Mr. Adgerson testified, he testified that there was a question in his mind after he spoke with Mr. Burke as to whether or not the contract had been interpreted correctly, and the point is that, of all of the testimony that's given today, none of it has to do with a person who's going to testify and say that I was with Mr. Wilmot when he signed the contract. I had negotiations with him about it, and we agreed that these terms were going to mean this particular thing.

THE COURT: Well, do we agree that it would have been -- do you acknowledge that it would have been incumbent upon the plaintiff to prove the plaintiff's case that some other interpretation of the contract should have been operative?

The plaintiff has proved that the MR. KING: Yes. contract interpretation which involves application of the

1 running rate to a particular line item is the only 2 interpretation that's reasonable. 3 The -- this suggestion that the GPO disagrees with 4 that interpretation and, in fact, agrees with Record Press' 5 interpretation is based on evidence about what they say after 6 the fact. 7 In order for Record Press to succeed in this argument 8 that there was -- both parties, you know, agree on what the 9 intent is, there would have to be some evidence that that 10 intent was manifested prior to the time that the contract was 11 12 THE COURT: But the burden of showing that would have 13 been on the plaintiff, wouldn't it? In other words, this case was brought by the plaintiff, and the plaintiff has the burden 14 of proof. 15 16 MR. KING: No. But the plaintiff certainly does --17 THE COURT: You don't dispute that, do you, that the plaintiff has the burden of proof? 18 19 MR. KING: The plaintiff certainly has the burden of proof to show that those invoices charged for an amount that 20 21 does not reflect what the contract says and that he has done. 22 What Mr. -- what Record Press' defense is is that Record Press 23 is stating that they have proved that the GPO interpreted the 24 contract in the same way that Record Press has, but --

THE COURT: Aren't those the only two parties to the

contract?

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MR. KING: The two parties to the contract are Record Press and GPO, but the defense that is being raised is this defense that the -- there can be no liability when the two interpretations are the same.

But the point is that the only evidence of the interpretation that is being provided is -- the evidence that is being provided of their interpretation does not relate to the interpretation as it existed at the time the contract was formed, and it is only the intent of the parties at the time the contract is formed which is going to be relevant to how the contract should be interpreted.

THE COURT: What has -- what evidence do you believe you have offered with regard to some other interpretation of the contract?

MR. KING: The contract itself is the most important example of the evidence of its interpretation. The contract itself says that the running rate applies to that line item. When -- if you listen closely to the testimony of the -- of the witnesses here today, you will have seen that, for example, when asked the question, why doesn't that running rate apply to that line item, the -- Mr. Adgerson did not state that there was some -- that the GPO spreadsheet, for example, he did not testify that the GPO spreadsheet is used to interpret the contract.

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The question was asked to Mr. Wilmot two times; the first time he didn't mention the GPO spreadsheet. He just mentioned the fact that line item D refers to per 100 pages, and the other ones don't. The second time he was asked, he did refer to the spreadsheet. but when asked about the spreadsheet, the emphasis was placed on the contract totals and not the line items. The point is that -- and there are other examples of how the question of whether or not you apply the line item -for any witness here today who says that the line item, that the running rate does not apply to the line item in answering why that is, they base it on some information outside of the contract. THE COURT: Which witnesses -- to which witnesses do you refer when you say any witness who testified to something MR. KING: The -- Mr. Wilmot and Mr. Sullivan. Both testify about this spreadsheet. And the fact that the spreadsheet is somehow indicative of what the contract say, but there is only one contract, and it says what it says. It is the proof of its meaning. THE COURT: Now, it was you who called Mr. Wilmot, do you agree? MR. KING: Yes.

THE COURT: I'll return to the question I asked

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earlier then: What evidence has the plaintiff offered with respect to any other interpretation of the contract? In other words, the witness that you called, witnesses, the first two witnesses you called, both testified that they were in agreement regarding the interpretation of the contract provision. Would you agree that that is a fair characterization of the testimony of Mr. Wilmot and Mr. Adgerson? MR. KING: Yes. THE COURT: What evidence is there then that the plaintiff has offered that the Court should disregard that testimony and make a finding that the contract -- the parties intended something different? MR. KING: Well, first of all, again, Mr. Adgerson was not -- was not involved in the contract negotiation and making. THE COURT: That is who you called in your case, though, is that -- do you acknowledge that that is so? MR. KING: Well, the parties stipulated to admitting the contract. The contract is evidence. The contract speaks for itself. The contract has a running rate; it clearly applies to each of the line items that are in the corresponding Roman numeral. The rest of the testimony does nothing to change

> WENDY C. RICARD, RPR, CCR OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

that. The -- you know, self-serving statements of Record Press

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that their interpretation is correct are not corroborated by any GPO testimony that reflects manifestation of intent at the time the contract was formed.

The only GPO testimony regarding their interpretation and the fact that it corroborates Mr. Wilmot's has to do with their reflections after the fact, and there is no evidence in the record at this time that shows what the GPO's intent was at the time of entering into the contract except for the contract itself, and the contract itself is very clear.

THE COURT: You may continue.

MR. KING: Mr. Burke also called an expert. expert had offered his assessment of the damages. The expert had an opportunity to review this spreadsheet that forms the basis for the GPO's interpretation. The expert testified that it was not reliable in his -- as a way for him to assess the damages.

There is testimony that the GPO, the evidence shows that the GPO receives a markup or a percentage, interest -- or interest on each of these bills. Obviously, the GPO does not want Mr. Burke's interpretation to be the correct interpretation because it would mean that they had also been involved in this to the extent that overcharges are reflected in their amount.

THE COURT: You agree that there is no allegation in the complaint with respect to the matter to which you just

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referred?

MR. KING: No. The matter to which I'm referring has to do with an inference regarding the intent of the parties. The idea that -- essentially, the idea is that the more Record Press charges, the more GPO makes. If Record Press' invoices reflect a higher amount than they should, then that is good for the GPO. And that's -- it's not surprising that the GPO would offer testimony today that supports Record Press' interpretation because the fact is that the GPO profits from Record Press' increased charges.

And to respond with some case law regarding this issue, <u>United States Ex rel Tyson v. Amerigroup Three, Inc</u>, 48 F. Supp 2d 719, citing <u>United States Ex rel Ash v. Teller</u>, 2004 Westlaw 1093784, is the quote: Mere acquiescence would not -would preclude False Claims Act liability any time a government employee and a defendant were in cahoots.

The idea is that just bringing in a government official who is going to concede to the charges is not enough to escape liability.

Another case, the <u>United States v. Southern</u> Management Corp, 326 F. 3d 669, stands for the proposition that this government knowledge defense is based upon the effect the government's knowledge has on the defendant's mental state.

Again, the point is that the question is not: What does the government say today about its interpretation in

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looking back; the question is: What evidence is there that the defendant knew what the government was going to interpret the contract as at the time that the contract was signed.

There's no evidence that's been presented today to suggest that Mr. Wilmot or Record Press knew what the government was going to say today or after the fact about their contract. The idea is that the defendant needs to be aware of whatever interpretation is being offered before the contract is formed.

One more case: A county water agency, 929 F. 2d 1416, stands for the proposition that the -- that the government knowledge alone does not provide an absolute defense.

And, again, just to wrap up, Your Honor, the point is that the argument being made that today both parties have testified that their interpretation is the same does not get them to the point of overcoming the fact that it is really a question of what they knew at the time the contract was formed Thank you. and not what they're saying in hindsight.

THE COURT: Thank you, Mr. King. Mr. Lomas? MR. LOMAS: Your Honor, the False Claims Act has three elements that we spoke about today. There has to be false claim; there has to be a knowledge on that on the part of the defendant; and there has to be materiality. And it's the burden of proof -- it's Mr. Burke's burden of proof on all

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three of those points.

On the falsity issue, he's asking the Court to assume falsity based on their -- based on Mr. Burke's understanding and opinion of a contract. This Court has rejected that in the case that I referenced earlier. All the evidence that was presented today, all of it, confirms that the only two parties to this contract understood from the first moment that Record Press submitted a bid, all the way through to this day, today, two years after, three years after Mr. Burke filed his claim, that they understood the collating, trimming to size, and binding term is \$12.25 per 100 pages.

We're hearing this new conspiracy argument where they're suggesting that government witnesses are in cahoots with Record Press. You have a 35-year veteran of the GPO who's testified on the stand today. I mean attacking, essentially, his character based on this assumption without any evidence, without any discussion of that on the stand.

Now, with respect to the knowledge element, he has -it is Mr. Burke's burden to prove that Record Press knew that their interpretation of the -- their understanding of the contract was wrong, and in this -- again, in this court, Massachusetts Housing Finance, the Court said that: That it's only where a contractor's purported interpretation of the contract borders on the frivolous and is so plainly lacking in merit that the requisite state of mind can be inferred.

1 Massachusetts Housing Finance, 456 F. Supp 2d. 2 You heard today again that the only --3 THE COURT: F. Supp 2d --4 MR. LOMAS: Oh, I'm sorry. I apologize. I didn't 5 give you the full cite, did I? Sixty-two. 6 THE COURT: Thank you. You may continue. 7 MR. LOMAS: Again, you heard the only evidence that 8 was offered by either party today confirmed that the two 9 parties to the contract had always understood the contract to 10 have the same meaning. How Record Press' interpretation could 11 be considered frivolous on that basis is just -- it just 12 doesn't make any sense. 13 And now with respect to some of the statements that Mr. King made about some of the testimony today, Mr. -- with 14 respect to the expert, he did not testify about the reliability 15 16 of the spreadsheet. He testified that it didn't change his 17 opinion about the amount of damages. 18 Again, Mr. Gocial was only here to testify on the amounts of damages, assuming liability. So the fact that this 19 20 spreadsheet -- you know, he didn't use that spreadsheet, of 21 course he wouldn't use that spreadsheet. All he needed to do 22 to calculate damages was the contract and the invoices, and, 23 again, the GPO reviewed those contracts and the invoices and confirmed that the invoices matched the contract. 24 25 And the discussion at the end of Mr. King's argument

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with respect to the government knowledge defense, again, that's a defense, an affirmative offense, after the plaintiff is able to prove his burden on showing falsity, knowledge, and then materiality. He has known -- there is no evidence to satisfy any of those elements. So the government knowledge defense doesn't even come into play until after the fact. But in none of those cases that Mr. Burke cited was the government, the alleged victim, the Government Printing Office, confirming that there was no fraud. That's not the issue that was in those cases. Here you have the alleged victim confirming that there was no fraud, and, again, this is a fraud case. There are civil penalties involved in -- I mean this is -- Record

Press is being accused of lying to the government. And the person or the organization that he is being accused of lying to is confirming that they never were lied to and that everything -- that Record Press has always operated properly under the contract.

So Mr. Burke has not met his burden on any of the required elements, and, in fact, the evidence proves the opposite of each of the elements that he needs to show in this case. Thank you, your Honor.

THE COURT: Counsel, thank you very much. The Court will take the Rule 52 motion under advisement and rule by way of a written memorandum, opinion and order.

1 To the extent that further proceedings are indicated 2 as a consequence of the Court's determination of the Rule 52(c) 3 motion, you will be notified when such further proceedings will 4 take place. At this time, the Court is prepared to take the 5 Rule 52(c) motion under advisement. 6 Now, is there anything further with respect to this 7 matter at this time, Mr. King? 8 MR. KING: No, Your Honor. 9 THE COURT: Mr. Lomas or Mr. O'Brien? 10 MR. LOMAS: No, Your Honor. Thank you. 11 THE COURT: Very well. Thank you very much. 12 Court has the copies of the exhibits that counsel provided to 13 the Court. I will ask you to maintain, you, counsel, all of 14 you, to maintain the remaining copies. 15 Very well. Anything further before we recess? 16 Thank you very much. MR. KING: Thank you, Your Honor. 17 18 MR. LOMAS: Thank you, Your Honor. 19 MR. O'BRIEN: Thank you, Your Honor. 20 (Whereupon, these proceedings concluded at 5:20 P.M.) 21 22 23 24 25

<u>C E R T I F I C A T E</u>

I, Wendy C. Ricard, Official United States Court Reporter in and for the District of Columbia, do hereby certify that the foregoing proceedings were taken down by me in shorthand at the time and place aforesaid, transcribed under my personal direction and supervision, and that the preceding pages represent a true and correct transcription, to the best of my ability and understanding.

 Wendy C. Ricard, RPR, CCR Official U.S. Court Reporter

## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

BRIAN BURKE,

Plaintiff / Counter-Defendant,

v.

RECORD PRESS, INC.,

Defendant / Counter-Claimant.

Civil Action No. 08-0364 DAR

#### **MEMORANDUM OPINION**

Plaintiff, as relator in a qui tam action commenced pursuant to the False Claims Act, 31 U.S.C. §§ 3729-3733, alleged that Defendant Record Press, Inc., overcharged the United States Government Printing Office (hereinafter "government" or "GPO") for the printing of briefs in a matter then pending in the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit. More specifically, Plaintiff alleged that two invoices submitted by Defendant to the GPO "[were] fraudulent as they contravene[d] the express language of GPO's contract with Record Press[]"; that "Record Press charged the Government ten times the contract rate for collating, trimming and binding briefs and appendices"; and that "it is Record Press's standard practice to charge the Government ten times the contract rate for this service." Joint Report Pursuant to Rule 16.3(d) ("Joint Report") (Document No. 16) at 1-2; see also Verified Complaint ("Complaint") (Document No. 1) ¶¶ 10-24.

After the United States declined to intervene, see United States' Notice of Election to Decline Intervention (Document No. 5), the court (Sullivan, J.) ordered, inter alia, that the

Burke v. Record Press, Inc.

complaint be unsealed, and that Plaintiff serve it upon Defendant, see Order (Document No. 6). Defendant filed its answer in accordance with the court's scheduling order. Answer to Plaintiff's Verified Complaint ("Answer") (Document No. 10); see also 07/17/2008 Minute Order. Defendant asserted "that the bills it submitted are fully in accordance with its contract with GPO," and that "the [contract and invoices] plainly show that no fraud has occurred." Joint Report at 2. In addition, Defendant pled as a counterclaim tortious interference with prospective economic advantage, see Answer at 7-8, an allegation which Plaintiff denied, see Answer to Defendant's Counterclaim (Document No. 13).

With the consent of the parties, trial of Plaintiff's claims against Defendant proceeded to trial before this court. See Notice, Consent, and Reference of a Civil Action to a Magistrate Judge (Document Nos. 48, 88); 11/01/2010 Minute Order; 02/11/2011 Minute Order (denying Defendant's Motion for Summary Judgment); 02/14/2011 Minute Entry (bench trial commenced and concluded). Plaintiff offered the testimony of three witness, and testified before he rested. Plaintiff's first witness, Hugh Wilmot, Jr., the president of Defendant Record Press, Inc., identified the contract between Record Press and the GPO, and the two invoices at issue. Mr. Wilmot testified that the invoices were "billed consistently" with the applicable provisions of the contract between Record Press and GPO. Transcript of Bench Trial (Document No. 89) 36:20, 46:3-4, 55:1-12, 55:19-22; 56:9. Plaintiff's second witness, Calvin Adgerson, Branch Chief of the GPO Commercial Billing and Examination Section, testified that after investigation of Plaintiff's inquiry regarding the rate at which he was billed for the services of Record Press, "[i]t was determined that we had been processing the invoices correctly, and that there were no issues in the way we were processing them." Tr. 77:24-78:1.

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Plaintiff testified that he first inquired about a line item on an invoice for the services of Record Press "[because] I believe[d] as I do today [that this] is an outrageous charge." Tr. (Document No. 90) 23:6-8; *see also* Tr. 25:17-20 ("some of the costs seemed quite competitive, per page costs, and the collating, trimming, and binding costs were this outrageous charge, and it certainly didn't - - it defied logic to me . . . .").¹ Plaintiff acknowledged that he never worked for either Record Press or the GPO, and that he did not participate in the drafting of the contract between those two entities. Tr. 31:1-10.

At the close of Plaintiff's case, Defendant moved for judgment pursuant to Rule 52(c) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. *See* Tr. (Document No. 90) 59:21-23. Both parties were heard on the record with respect to said motion, and neither asked for an opportunity to file written submissions. *See* Tr. 59:21-60:4, 92:10-109:20.<sup>2</sup>

### APPLICABLE STANDARDS

### False Claims Act

Congress, through the False Claims Act, "created a cause of action against anyone who

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The testimony of Plaintiff's remaining witness, Morris Gocial, was confined to damages. Mr. Gocial opined that Plaintiff's damages were the difference between the rate at which Defendant billed the government, and the rate which Plaintiff thought was applicable. Tr. (Document No. 90) 12:11-16, 16:7-9 (Plaintiff's damages are "the difference between \$37.24 and \$372.40," and "the difference between \$138.67 and the \$1,386.70."); see also Plaintiff Brian Burke's Pretrial Statement (Document No. 51) at 2 ("Mr. Burke seeks damages for Record Press's overcharges under its contracts with the GPO. The damages are equal to the amount charged in line item II(d) minus the amount which should have been charged by prorating the charge per 10 copies."). But see Plaintiff Brian Burke's Second Supplemental Pretrial Statement (Document No. 55) at 4 ("invoices for which the disputed line item was charged . . . demonstrates total damages of \$527,122.10.").

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The parties, as a convenience to the court, agreed that Defendant would call one of its witnesses, who had "been patiently waiting" throughout the day. Tr. (Document No. 90) at 59:21-90:11. As the court bases its consideration of Defendant's motion for judgment on partial findings solely upon the evidence offered by Plaintiff, the court has no occasion to address herein the testimony of the witness called by Defendant.

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'knowingly presents, or causes to be presented, to an officer or employee of the United States Government . . . a false or fraudulent claim for payment or approval[.]" United States v. DRC, Inc., 856 F. Supp. 2d 159, 167 (D.D.C. 2012) (footnote omitted) (quoting 31 U.S.C. § 3729(a)(1) (2000)). "A proper False Claims Act claim has three elements: (1) the defendant presented a claim for payment or approval to the government, (2) the claim was 'false or fraudulent,' and (3) the defendant acted knowing that the claim was false." United States ex rel. Folliard v. Govplace, No. 07-719, 2013 WL 1092859, at \*3 (D.D.C. Mar. 18, 2013) (citation omitted); see also DRC, Inc., 856 F. Supp. 2d at 167 (citation omitted). A "claim" is broadly defined "to include 'any request or demand, whether under contract or otherwise, for money or property which is made to a contractor, grantee, or other recipient if the United States Government provides any portion of the money . . . or if the Government will reimburse . . . any portion of the money." United States ex rel. Brown v. Aramark Corp., 591 F. Supp. 2d 68, 73 (D.D.C. 2008) (citation omitted). Thus, the Act "essentially creates liability for 'all fraudulent attempts to cause the Government to pay out sums of money." Id. (citations omitted) (internal quotation marks omitted); see also United States ex rel. Hood v. Satory Global, Inc., No. 11-774, 2013 WL 2274798, at \*8 (D.D.C. May 23, 2013) (citation omitted) ("The [False Claims Act's] 'chief purpose . . . is to prevent the commission of fraud against the federal government and to provide for the restitution of money that was taken from the federal government by fraudulent means."").

"A claim may be false under the [False Claims Act] if it is either factually or legally false." United States v. Toyobo Co., 811 F. Supp. 2d 37, 45 (D.D.C. 2011) (citation omitted). "A claim can be 'factually false if it invoices for services that were not rendered' or incorrectly describes goods or services provided." Id. (citation omitted). "A claim may be 'legally false' if

it represents falsely that the party submitting the claim has complied with an applicable federal statute or regulation, or with a contractual term." *DRC, Inc.*, 856 F. Supp. 2d at 167 (citation omitted); *cf. Toyobo Co.*, 811 F. Supp. 2d at 45 (citation omitted) ("One way to plead a false claim under this theory is to plead 'that the contractor withheld information about its noncompliance with material contractual requirements."). Claims "alleged[ly]... submitted under a contract procured by fraud can be actionable" even in the absence of allegations that the claims were factually or legally false. *Toyobo Co.*, 811 F. Supp. 2d at 46 (citation omitted); *see also DRC, Inc.*, 856 F. Supp. 2d. at 168 (citation omitted) ("Claims for payment submitted under a contract procured by fraud also may be actionable.").

The False Claims Act includes a scienter requirement; thus, the relator must demonstrate that the defendant presented a false claim "knowingly, which entails having 'actual knowledge of the information[,]' acting 'in deliberate ignorance of the truth or falsity of the information[,]' or acting 'in reckless disregard of the truth or falsity of the information.'" *DRC, Inc.*, 856 F. Supp. 2d. at 168 (quoting 31 U.S.C. § 3729(b)). "Strict enforcement of the [False Claims Act's] scienter requirement will . . . help to ensure that ordinary breaches of contract are not converted into [False Claims Act] liability." *Id.* (citation omitted) (internal quotation marks omitted).

In order to prevail on a claim brought pursuant to the False Claims Act, a plaintiff must prove all elements of the cause of action by a preponderance of the evidence. *See, e.g., Grand Acadian, Inc. v. United States*, 105 Fed. Cl. 447, 457 (Fed. Cl. 2012) (citations omitted).

### *Rule 52(c)*

Rule 52(c) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure provides, in pertinent part, that

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[i]f a party has been fully heard on an issue during a nonjury trial and the court finds against the party on that issue, the court may enter judgment against the party on a claim or defense that, under the controlling law, can be maintained or defeated only with a favorable finding on that issue.

Fed. R. Civ. P. 52(c); see also Nkpado v. Standard Fire Ins. Co., 697 F. Supp. 2d 94, 98 n.4 (D.D.C. 2010) (quoting Advisory Committee Notes to Rule 52(c)) (1991 amendment to the rule "authorizes the court[] to enter judgment at any time that it can appropriately make a dispositive finding of fact on the evidence.").

In its determination of a motion made in accordance with Rule 52(c), "a district court may not draw any special inferences in favor of the non-movant"; rather, "the court must weigh the evidence, resolve any conflicts in it, and decide where the preponderance lies." United States ex rel. Ervin & Assocs. v. Hamilton Secs. Grp., Inc., 298 F. Supp. 2d 91, 92-93 (D.D.C. 2004) (citations omitted). In so doing, the trier of fact "retains, the authority, if not the obligation, to draw reasonable inferences from the facts found." Id. at 93 n.3.

#### FINDINGS OF FACT

Upon consideration of the evidence adduced by Plaintiff and all reasonable inferences to be drawn therefrom, the court finds that Plaintiff has demonstrated, at most, that he believes that Defendant Record Press overcharges the government for its services. However, the court finds that Plaintiff's subjective concern falls far short of a showing, by a preponderance of the evidence, that Defendant presented "false or fraudulent claims for payment or approval," Complaint ¶ 26 (Count I), or that Defendant "knowingly made [or] used . . . false or fraudulent records or statements[] to get false or fraudulent claims paid or approved by the Government," id.

¶ 28 (Count II).

The gravamen of Plaintiff's complaint is that Defendant overcharged the government for the services it provided pursuant to its contract with the United States Government Printing Office. Complaint ¶ 3 ("Mr. Burke investigated and discovered that Defendant was overcharging the Government nearly 10 times the rate specified by its contract with [the Government Printing Office]."); see also id. ¶ 22 ("In Relator's litigation alone, Record Press overbilled the Government approximately \$1,700.00, nearly ten times the amount it was authorized to charge under the GPO contract."); id. ¶ 24 ("[A]pplying this overcharge to GPO's estimated requirements in the RFP, Record Press overcharged the Government more than \$280,000.00 in one contract year. Because Record Press is a long-time GPO contractor, the total overbilling is likely many times greater than the one-year estimate."). However, both the President of Defendant Record Press and the Branch Chief of GPO's Commercial Billing and Examination Section, called by Plaintiff in his case-in-chief, testified that the rate at which Defendant billed the government was indeed the rate for which the contract between Defendant and the government provided, and that Defendant submitted its invoices in accordance with the terms of the contract.

Moreover, the evidence offered by Plaintiff demonstrates that Defendant and the government had a meeting of the minds with respect to rates which Defendant would charge for services provided pursuant to the contract. Indeed, the alleged victim, through the agency official who appeared in Plaintiff's case-in-chief, testified that there was no fraud. Plaintiff offered no evidence to the contrary.

In so finding, the court need not address the credibility of Plaintiff, as his testimony was

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largely confined to his belief that the costs he was assessed by the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit were "outrageous." See, e.g., Tr. (Document No. 90) at 23:8. However, even fully crediting Plaintiff's testimony, the undersigned finds that no inference that Defendant submitted a false claim is warranted.

### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

On the basis of the foregoing findings, the court concludes that Plaintiff's claims cannot be maintained under controlling law. Accordingly, Defendant's motion for judgment on partial findings pursuant to Rule 52(c) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure will be granted by separate order, and the Clerk of the Court will be directed to enter judgment in favor of Defendant.3

June 12, 2013 DEBORAH. A. ROBINSON United States Magistrate Judge

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> After the trial, Defendant moved to dismiss its counterclaim, see Record Press Inc.'s Motion to Voluntarily Dismiss its Counterclaim (Document No. 72); the court, by minute order, granted the motion, see 05/21/2013 Minute Order.

# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

BRIAN BURKE,

Plaintiff / Counter-Defendant,

v.

RECORD PRESS, INC.,

Defendant / Counter-Claimant.

Civil Action No. 08-0364 DAR

### **ORDER**

For the reasons stated in the accompanying Memorandum Opinion (Document No. 91), Defendant's motion for judgment on partial findings pursuant to Rule 52(c) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure is **GRANTED**. Accordingly, the Clerk of the Court shall enter judgment in favor of Defendant.

It is, this 12<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2013,

SO ORDERED.

DEBORAH. A. ROBINSON United States Magistrate Judge District of Columbia live database-District of Columbia live database

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# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

UNITED STATES ex rel. BRIAN BURKE, Plaintiff,	
vs.	Civil Action No. 1:08-CV-00364-DAR
RECORD PRESS, INC.,	
Defendant.	

# DECLARATION OF WILLIAM T. O'BRIEN IN SUPPORT OF RECORD PRESS, INC.'S MOTION FOR ATTORNEY FEES AND EXPENSES

- I, William T. O'Brien, declare under penalty of perjury as follows:
- 1. I am over the age of 18 and make this declaration based on personal knowledge and if called as a witness, could competently testify to the facts stated in this declaration. I am a partner in the Washington, DC office of McKenna Long & Aldridge LLP ("MLA"). My firm and I have represented Record Press, Inc. in the above captioned matter since July 2008. I make this declaration in support of Record Press's motion for attorney fees and expenses incurred in this litigation.
- 2. I received my undergraduate degree in 1987 from Boston University and my law degree in 1994 from The Catholic University of America Columbus School of Law. I have extensive experience over the court of nineteen years litigating before numerous U.S. courts and major international arbitral institutions involving, among other issues, defense against allegations of fraud or corruption and breach of contract disputes. I also actively counsel clients and conduct investigations on matters concerning U.S. Export Laws and Regulations and the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act ("FCPA") involving audits, compliance programs, classification and licensing issues, voluntary disclosures, and governmental actions. I have been recognized by *Chambers USA*. I am admitted to practice in the United States Supreme Court; the United States Courts of Appeals for the District of Columbia, Ninth, and Eleventh Circuits; the United States

District Court for the District of Columbia, the United States Court of International Trade; and the highest courts of the District of Columbia and Maryland.

- 3. My customary and market billable rate is presently \$600 and was \$480/hour in 2008, \$505/hour in 2009, \$530/hour in 2010, and \$550/hour in 2011. MLA has always billed Record Press at my customary market rate. My work on this matter primarily involved handling the overall supervision of the case; interfacing with the client; developing litigation strategies and positions; communicating and negotiating with opposing counsel; handling hearings and status conferences with the Court; reviewing and editing briefing in support of Record Press's motions and in opposition to Plaintiff's motions; preparing witnesses for deposition and trial; crossexamining Plaintiff and his expert witness at trial.
- 4. My partner John G. Horan, Esq., from MLA's Washington D.C. office, also worked on this matter. Mr. Horan received his undergraduate degree in 1982 from Rutgers University and his law degree in 1986 from Georgetown University. Mr. Horan more than twenty-five years of litigation experience, and concentrates his practice in government contracts, civil fraud, and white-collar criminal defense. Mr. Horan currently serves as General Counsel to the National Contract Management Association, a national, nonprofit, membership-based, professional society for both government and commercial contract managers and procurement professionals. Mr. Horan contributes to a monthly column, Legal Forum, in Contract Management magazine, and currently serves as a member of the Editorial Board of the Public Contract Law Journal. He has also been quoted on government contracts issues in International Business Times, FederalTimes.com, and Government Executive.com, among other on-line and print publications. Mr. Horan is a former Assistant U.S. Attorney for the District of Columbia.
- 5. MLA's customary and market rate for Mr. Horan's time in the years that he billed time for work on this matter was \$600/hour in 2008, \$630/hour in 2009, and \$695/hour in 2011. MLA has always billed Record Press for Mr. Horan's time at his and customary market rate. Mr. Horan's work on this matter primarily involved providing developing strategy and providing strategic advice for trial preparation and motions practice.

- 6. My associate John W. Lomas, Jr., Esq., from MLA's Washington D.C. office, also worked on this matter. Mr. Lomas received his undergraduate degree in 1998 from the University of Richmond and his law degree and a master's degree in 2006 from Duke University. My firm has recognized Mr. Lomas as one of our very best associates. Mr. Lomas has substantial experience litigating matters in federal and state courts across the country, and before the International Trade Commission, the American Arbitration Association, and JAMS. Mr. Lomas is admitted to practice in the United States Courts of Appeals for the District of Columbia and Federal Circuits; the United States District Courts for the District of Columbia, Eastern District of Virginia, and Eastern District of Texas; and the highest courts of the District of Columbia and Virginia.
- 7. MLA's customery billable and market rate for Mr. Lomas's time is presently \$555/hour and was \$405/hour in 2010 and \$450/hour in 2011. MLA billed Record Press at his customary and market rate for Mr. Lomas's work on this matter. Mr. Lomas's work on this matter primarily involved interfacing with the client; developing litigation strategies and positions; researching relevant legal issues; supervising paralegal and support staff work; propounding and responding to discovery requests; communicating and negotiating with opposing counsel; drafting motions and responses to motions, including summary judgment; handling oral argument; preparing witnesses for deposition and trial; defending Record Press's witness at deposition; deposing Plaintiff/Relator; and handling cross-examinations of certain of Plaintiff's witnesses, direct examinations of Record Press's witnesses, and arguments at trial.
- 8. Valerie Lam, formerly a paralegal from MLA's Washington D.C. office, also worked on this matter. Ms. Lam has nine years of paralegal and legal practice consulting experience. MLA's customary and market billable rate for Ms. Lam's time when she worked on this matter was \$210/hour in 2008, \$220/hour in 2009, and \$250/hour in 2011. MLA billed Record Press for Ms. Lam's time on this matter at her customary and market rate. Ms. Lam's work on this matter primarily involved providing paralegal support with the preparation of pleadings,

motions, and other filings, and for trial preparation and at trial, including preparing trial exhibits and assisting with technological aspects of Record Press's trial presentation.

- 9. Tara Eberhart, MLA's Senior Firm-Wide Paralegal Manager, also worked on this matter. Ms. Eberhart has more than fourteen years of paralegal experience. Ms. Eberhart is also an Adjunct Professor in the Paralegal Studies Program at The George Washington University where she teaches the Litigation capstone course for the Masters in Paralegal Studies program. MLA's customary and market billable rate for Ms. Eberhart's time when she worked on this matter was \$230/hour in 2008, \$240/hour in 2009, and \$260/hour in 2010. MLA always billed Record Press for Ms. Eberhart's time on this matter at her customary and market rate. Ms. Eberhart's work on this matter primarily involved providing paralegal support with the preparation of pleadings, motions, and other filings, coordinating litigation support for document processing and production, maintaining pleadings files, and various other tasks.
- 10. Jeannie Johnson, formerly a paralegal from MLA's Washington D.C. office, also worked on this matter. Ms. Johnson has more than five years of paralegal experience. MLA's customary and market billable rate for Ms. Johnson's time in 2008 when she worked on this matter was \$220/hour. MLA always billed Record Press for Ms. Johnson's time on this matter at her customary and market rate. Ms. Johnson's work on this matter primarily involved providing paralegal support with the preparation of pleadings, motions, and other filings, maintaining pleadings files, and various other tasks.
- 11. MLA is one of the preeminent government contracts firms in the country with deep expertise handling and litigation false claims act cases. The rates MLA charged Record Press are commensurate with the rates charged by other comparable Washington D.C. law firms. For example, the following chart reflects the average rates charged by large Washington D.C. law firms as reported by the National Law Journal Annual Billing Survey:

Filed: 01/07/2015

True and correct copies of excerpts of the National Law Journal Billing Surveys for the years 2008-2011 are attached as Exhibit A.

- 12. The rates MLA charged for attorneys from its Washington D.C. office are also commensurate with the rates for Washington D.C. attorneys as reported by the current version of the Updated *Laffey* Matrix developed by Dr. Michael Kavanaugh, which this Court has approved for use in federal court litigation in the District of Columbia. *E.g.*, *Ricks v. Barnes*, Civ. A. No. 05-1756 HHK/DAR, 2007 WL 956940, at \*3 n.3 (D.D.C. Mar. 28, 2007) (Robinson, J.) (granting attorney fee award based on rates from the Updated *Laffey* Matrix developed by Dr. Kavanaugh and acknowledging the Updated *Laffey* Matrix is approved for use in federal court litigation in the District of Columbia); *Smith v. District of Columbia*, 466 F. Supp. 2d 151, 156 (D.D.C. 2006) ("use of the updated *Laffey* Matrix is reasonable and consistent with previous precedent from our Court of Appeals, as well as from this Court in *Salazar*"); *Salazar v. District of Columbia*, 123 F. Supp. 2d 8, 13 (D.D.C. 2000) ("the Court concludes that the updated *Laffey* matrix [developed by Michael Kavanaugh] more accurately reflects the prevailing rates for legal services in the D.C. community"). A true and correct copy of the Updated *Laffey* Matrix is attached as Exhibit B.
- 13. As shown in Exhibit B, the Updated Laffey Matrix rates for Washington D.C. attorneys with more than twenty years of experience, such as Mr. Horan, are \$671/hour for June 1, 2008 through May 31, 2009, \$686/hour for June 1, 2009 through May 31, 2010, and \$709/hour for June 1, 2010 through May 31, 2011. The Updated Laffey Matrix rates for Washington D.C. attorneys with eleven to nineteen years of experience, such as myself, are

\$557/hour for June 1, 2008 through May 31, 2009, \$569/hour for June 1, 2009 through May 31, 2010, and \$589/hour for June 1, 2010 through May 31, 2011. The Updated Laffey Matrix rates for Washington D.C. attorneys with four to seven years of experience, such as Mr. Lomas, are \$349/hour for June 1, 2009 through May 31, 2010 and \$361/hour for June 1, 2010 through May 31, 2011.

14. Attached as Exhibit C are true and correct copies of the cover page of each monthly invoice that MLA issued to Record Press for work on this matter, which summarize the hours, fees, and expenses incurred for work on this litigation on a monthly basis. The following table provides a summary of those records:

Invoice Date	Invoice No.	Fees	Costs	Total
8/22/2008	610016	5,608.00	1.56	5,609.56
9/8/2008	612105	2,334.00	2.18	2,336.18
10/6/2008	616891	10,892.00	4.21	10,896.21
11/10/2008	622873	8,194.00	203.93	8,397.93
12/1/2008	626595	4,596.00	24.61	4,620.61
1/13/2009	632021	3,772.00	337.76	4,109.76
2/11/2009	636815	0.00	17.95	17.95
3/12/2009	641320	0.00	70.60	70.60
5/8/2009	650175	0.00	0.00	0.00
7/6/2009	659905	8,502.50	402.27	8,904.77
8/11/2009	665684	0.00	206.86	206.86
9/8/2009	670033	505.00	2.90	507.90
10/5/2009	673917	3,278.50	20.81	3,299.31
11/5/2009	678716	4,301.50	4.33	4,305.83
12/2/2009	682467	1,060.50	29.75	1,090.25
2/12/2010	691985	4,598.50	234.12	4,832.62
3/5/2010	695082	1,763.50	2.56	1,766.06
4/7/2010	699452	2,754.00	15.60	2,769.60
5/10/2010	704256	12,717.50	71.09	12,788.59
6/9/2010	708809	17,105.50	114.72	17,220.22
7/8/2010	712624	27,654.50	712.33	28,366.83
8/10/2010	717267	13,538.50	422.17	13,960.67
9/7/2010	721091	0.00	11.14	11.14
10/11/2010	725577	202.50	1.20	203.70
11/8/2010	729734	8,590.00	1.60	8,591.60
12/2/2010	733375	18,535.00	223.61	18,758.61
1/11/2011	738005	25,997.50	1,406.54	27,404.04
2/7/2011	741494	20,066.50	206.97	20,273.47

Invoice Date	Invoice No.	Fees	Costs	Total
3/10/2011	745900	66,630.50	902.82	67,533.32
4/11/2011	749973	7,290.00	2,764.36	10,054.36
5/9/2011	754263	3,525.00	4.80	3,529.80
6/13/2011	759992	90.00	15.00	105.00
7/13/2011	763838	27.00	0.00	27.00
	TOTALS	\$284,130.00	\$8,440.35	\$292,570.35

Document #1530697

- 15. I have kept contemporaneous time records of the legal work that I did in this case, as did all of the MLA attorneys, paralegal, and support staff who billed time to this matter. Those records are protected by the attorney-client and attorney-work-product privileges, but Record Press is amenable to providing those time records to the Court for an in-camera inspection should the Court wish to review them.
- 16. The hours MLA billed on this matter were reasonable and necessary, particularly in light of the litigation strategy and tactics employed by Plaintiff and his counsel. At the time the work was performed, the attorneys at MLA working on this matter reasonably believed the work should be performed to obtain a successful outcome. MLA worked efficiently by having an associate handle the bulk of the responsibilities from discovery through trial, relying on a project assistant in lieu of paralegals when possible, and taking advantage of MLA's deep institutional expertise and prior work product in the FCA area.
- 17. The total lodestar calculation for the services of the attorneys and the paralegals who did legal work through my firm (reflecting an average rate for each timekeeper given the rate changes during the course of the litigation) for which Record Press is seeking reimbursement is as follows:

Timekeeper	Hours	Average Rate	Lodestar Value
William T. O'Brien, Esq.	160.5	\$513.76	\$82,458.50
John Horan, Esq.	9.0	\$633.17	\$5,698.50
John Lomas, Esq.	407.9	\$415.93	\$169,659.00
Tara Eberhart	17.0	\$235.59	\$4,005.00
Valerie Lam	48.7	\$247.00	\$12,029.00
Jeannie Johnson	24.6	\$220.00	\$5,412.00
Total			\$279,262.00

18. The total lodestar calculation for the services of attorneys, librarian, litigation support specialist, paralegal, and project assistant who did legal work through my firm (reflecting an average rate for each timekeeper given the rate changes during the course of the litigation) that Record Press has excluded from the amount for which it is seeking reimbursement is as follows:

Timekeeper	Hours	Average Rate	Lodestar Value
Lisa Norrett Himes, Esq.	2.7	\$460.00	\$1,242.00
Timothy Halloran, Esq.	0.4	\$390.00	\$156.00
Stephanie Ellis, Esq.	3.2	\$285.00	\$912.00
Carol Wagner	1.0	\$255.00	\$255.00
Douglas Malbera	1.5	\$125.00	\$187.50
Erik Bolte	0.5	\$165.00	\$82.50
Henry Kegan	23.9	\$85.06	\$2,033.00
Total			\$4,868.00

19. As shown in Exhibit C, our firm also billed Record Press for costs and expenses reasonably incurred defending this litigation during the period from July 2008 through June 2011. As shown in Exhibit D, Record Press also reasonably incurred a litigation support vendor expense that was directly sent to Record Press, rather than billed through MLA. The costs and expenses, for which Record Press is seeking reimbursement, are summarized by category in the following table:

Expense Description	Amount
Copying	\$594.75
Deposition Transcripts	\$788.85
Taxis/Mileage/Parking (local travel)	\$302.70
Long Distance and Conference Call Telephone Charges	\$134.54
Delivery/Messenger charges (for correspondence and document	\$521.65
production to client, opposing counsel, and plaintiff/relator)	
Federal Court Pacer charges	\$83.68
Litigation support vendor costs (processing of document production, etc.)	\$744.73
Witness Fee	\$50.00
Westlaw/Lexis Legal Research	\$5,658.04
Total	\$8,878.94

The categories of expenses Record Press claims are typical of the expenses that law firms incur in this type of litigation, and expenses that law firms reasonably charge to their clients, separately, and not part of their overhead expenses.

20. A true and correct copy of my June 24, 2010 letter to Tyler Jay King, Esq. with attachments, as set via e-mail by John Lomas, Esq., is attached as Exhibit E.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed on this 27th day of June, 2013.

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#### **Exhibit A**

is is	Firm Name	Location	Partner Billing Bate High	Partner Billing Bate Low	Associate Billing Rate	Associate Billing Bate Low	Associate Billing Rate		Partner Billing Bate Average	Firmwide Billing Rate	Firmwide Billing Rate	
č	Adams and Bossa	New Orleans	Rate High	Rate Low		Billing Ra	ate Low		Average	Average Rate Average Average	Average Rate Average Average	Average Rate Average Average Average Sono care and a ca
$\overline{}$		New Orleans	\$425	\$240	\$300	\$175		\$209		\$318	\$318	\$318 \$257
	:008 Akerman Senterfitt	Miami										
ω	:008 Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld	Washington										
	2008 Allen Matkins Leck Gamble Mallory & Natsis	Los Angeles										
	2008 Andrews Kurth	Houston										
ω	0008 Arent Fox	Washington	\$710	\$410	\$465	\$260						
ω	:008 Armstrong Teasdale	St Louis	\$450	\$295	\$300	\$175						
$\infty$	:008 Arnold & Porter	Washington										
8		Cleveland										
8		Houston										
8	Bearman, Caldwell &	Memphis, Tenn.	\$525	\$230	\$300	\$120	\$218		\$336	\$339 \$295		\$295
ω	:008 Balch & Bingham	Birmingham, Ala.	\$600	\$295	\$280	\$200						
8	8008 Ballard Spahr Andrews & Ingersoll, LLP Philadelphia	Philadelphia										
8	:008 Bass, Berry & Sims	Nashville, Tenn.	\$575	\$240	\$310	\$180	\$245		\$408	\$408		\$378
ω		Chicago										
8	0008 Best Best & Krieger	Riverside, Calif.	\$550	\$300	\$365	\$175	\$245		\$410	\$410		\$307
8	:008 Bingham McCutchen	Boston										
8	:008 Blank Rome	Philadelphia	\$785	\$425	\$485	\$245	\$332		\$525	\$525 \$400		
ω	0008 Bond, Schoeneck & King	Syracuse, N.Y.	\$450	\$210	\$250	\$150	\$187		\$308	\$308 \$268		\$268
	:008 Bowman and Brooke	Minneapolis										
		Houston										
8	0008 Bradley Arant Rose & White	Birmingham, Ala.	\$550	\$260	\$310	\$170						
	OOR Bridge and Morgan	Minneapolis	\$580	\$300	0000	1000	0000			6420	0000	6420

Fiscal	2008 <b>Br</b> i	2008 <b>Br</b>	2008 <b>Br</b>	2008 <b>Br</b>	2008 <b>Br</b>	2008 <b>Bu</b> 2008 <b>Bu</b>	2008 <b>BL</b>	2008 <b>Bu</b>	2008 <b>C</b> 2	2008 Ca	<b>3</b> 008	2008 <b>Ch</b>	2008 CI	2008 CC	2008 Co	2008 <b>Cr</b>	2008 <b>Cn</b>	2008 Da	2008 <b>D</b> g	2008 <b>Da</b>	2008 <b>De</b>	2008	2008 <b>L</b>
Firm Name	Brinks Hofer Gilson & Lione	Broad and Cassel	Brown Rudnick	2008 Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck	Bryan Cave	Buchalter Nemer Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney	2008 Burit & Forman	Butzel Long	2008 Cadwalader, Wickersham & Taft	2008 Cahill Gordon & Reindel	arlton Fields	Chapman and Cutler	leary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton	2008 Cooley Godward Kronish	Cozen O'Connor	2008 Crowell & Moring	Curtis, Mallet-Prevost, Colt & Mosle	avis Polk & Wardwell	2008 Davis Wright Tremaine	Day Pitney	ebeoise & Plimpton	2008 Dewey & LeBoeuf	ickinson Wright
Location	Chicago	Orlando, Fla.	Boston	Denver	St Louis	Los Angeles Pittsburgh	Portland, Ore. Birmingham, Ala.	Detroit	New York	New York	Tampa, Fla.	Chicago	New York	Palo Alto, Calif.	vasınıganı Philadelphia	Washington	New York	New York	Seattle	Florham Park, N.J.	New York	New York	Detroit
Partner Billing Rate High	\$700	\$475		\$750	\$750	\$600	\$525 \$495	\$650			\$650			\$980	\$840		\$785		\$710	\$710		C L	\$550
Partner Billing Rate Low	\$320	\$290		\$275	\$340	\$260	\$275 \$210	\$300			\$305			\$525	\$240		\$675		\$300	\$295		400	\$275
Associate Billing Rate High	\$435	\$320		\$285	\$510	\$450 \$520	\$325 \$305	\$290			\$335			\$570	\$650		\$575		\$405	\$450		0000	\$300
Associate Billing Rate Low	\$180	\$175		\$160	\$170	\$225 \$100	\$190	\$180			\$195			\$285	\$205		\$290		\$190	\$220		00.00	\$180
Associate Billing Rate Average	\$281	\$245		\$234	\$314	\$283	\$235				\$267				\$342		\$434		\$280			Ī	
Partner Billing Rate Average	\$499	\$378		\$424	\$525	\$448	\$352				\$435				\$457		\$730		\$455				
Firmwide Billing Rate Average	\$392	\$314		\$340	\$424	\$384	\$271				\$334				268\$		\$520		\$395				
Associate Billing Rate Med	\$275	\$248		\$240	\$310	\$275	\$230				\$265				\$325		\$435		\$280				
Partner Billing Rate Med	\$500	\$375		\$400	\$510	\$450	\$350				\$435				\$455		\$730		\$450				
Firmwide Billing Rate Med	\$390	\$310		\$325	\$405	\$375	\$295				\$325				\$385		\$515		\$395				

Firmwide Billing Rate Med \$485	1100	\$275		\$430	6	\$450		\$450	\$400					\$500	070¢			\$325	\$375	\$340		\$270	
Partner Billing A Rate Med \$605	000	\$338		\$510	6	\$505			\$495					9050	0000			\$350	\$450	\$395		\$310	
Associate Billing Rate Med \$395	000	\$198		\$335	Cu	\$350			\$300					3059	0859 <b>4</b>			\$220	\$260	\$225		\$180	
Firmwide Billing Rate Average \$493		\$284		\$407	0.44	\$449			\$406					9609	900¢			\$314	\$378	\$340		\$272	
Partner Billing Rate Average		\$34/		\$505	0000	\$490	\$415		\$501					9034	0 6 6 6			\$360	\$443	\$402		\$317	
Associate Billing Rate Average		\$202		\$301	9000	\$326	\$277		\$312					\$405	9402			\$222	\$275	\$237		\$188	
Associate Billing Rate Low \$250		\$160		\$170	0004	\$230	\$170	\$170	\$175				\$195	£10E	001¢		\$245	\$160	\$215	\$150		\$145	
Associate Billing Rate High	LOCA	\$305		\$820	07116	\$510	\$435	\$480	\$450				08£\$				\$405	\$325	\$395	\$315		\$260	
Partner Billing Rate Low \$475	000	\$220		\$235	OFCO	\$340	\$265	\$325	\$350				088				\$325	\$175	\$250	\$250		\$225	
Partner Billing Rate High \$895	10.0	\$495		\$1,180	3750	\$7.55	\$650	\$755	\$850				\$505	9000	COAR		\$585	\$525	\$590	\$290		\$490	
Location Washington		Cincinnati	London	Minneapolis	Philadelphia	Philadelphia	Detroit	Boston	New York	Minneapolis	Mountain View, Calif.	Boston	Atlanta	New York	Milwaukee	Boston	Atlanta	Tampa, Fla.	Philadelphia	Minneapolis	New York	Cincinnati	Houston
cal Firm Name 2008 Dickstein Shapiro		& Shoni	2008 DLA Piper		2008 Drinker Biddle & Reath			& Dodge	Green	2008 Faegre & Benson		ın		2008 Fitzpatrick, Cella, Harper & Scinto				2008 Fowler White Boggs Banker	2008 Fox Rothschild	2008 Fredrikson & Byron	s, Shriver & Jacobson	2008 Frost Brown Todd	2008 Fulbright & Jaworski
Fiscal Year 2008	000	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2002	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008

Fiscal Year	2008 Gardere Wynne Sewell	2008 Gibbons	2008 Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher	2008 Godfrey & K	2008 <b>Gordon &amp; R.</b>	2008 Goulston & :	2008 GrayRobinson	2008 Greenberg Traurig	2008 Harris Beach	2008 Herrick, Feinstein	2008 Hiscock & Barclay	2008 Hodgson Russ	2008 Hogan & Hartson	2008 Holland & Hart	2008 Holland & Knight	2008 Holme Roberts & Owen	2008 Honigman M	2008 Howard Rica Rabkin	2008 Hughes Hubbard & Reed	2008 Hunton & Williams	2008 Husch Blackwell Sanders	2008 Ice Miller	2008 Irell & Manella
Firm Name	nne Sewell		nn & Crutcher	(ahn	ees	Storrs	uo	Fraurig	h	nstein	arclay	SSF	rtson	art	night	erts & Owen	Honigman Miller Schwartz and Cohn	2008 Howard Rice Nemerovski Canady Falk & San Francisco Rabkin	bard & Reed	'illiams	kwell Sanders		lla
Location	Dallas	Newark, N.J.	Los Angeles	Milwaukee	San Francisco	Boston	Orlando, Fla.	New York	Rochester, N.Y.	New York	Syracuse, N.Y.	Buffalo, N.Y.	Washington	Denver	Tampa, Fla.	Denver	Detroit	San Francisco	New York	Richmond, Va.	St Louis	Indianopolis, Ind.	Los Angeles
Partner Billing Rate High	\$750	\$700					099\$	\$850	\$475		\$650	\$665	006\$	\$615		\$635		\$795	928\$		\$740		
Partner Billing Rate Low	\$380	\$375					\$200	\$335	\$250		\$190	\$240	\$375	\$295		\$285		\$515	\$625		\$205		
Associate Billing Rate High	\$450	\$415					\$275	\$525	\$275		\$430	\$450	\$550	\$355		\$525		\$510	\$600		\$380		
Associate Billing Rate Low	\$210	\$220					\$125	\$175	\$140		\$145	\$165	\$150	\$175		\$160		\$275	\$270		\$150		
Associate Billing Rate Average	\$306						\$164	\$323			\$235	\$230	\$410	\$269		\$294					\$218		
Partner Billing Rate Average	\$502						\$310	\$520			\$361	\$355	\$660	\$414		\$415					\$352		
Firmwide Billing Rate Average	\$374						\$239	\$426			\$319	\$303	\$525	\$350		\$355					\$302		
Associate Billing Rate Med	\$300						\$167	\$325			\$224	\$235	\$400	\$275		\$265					\$215		
Partner Billing Rate Med	\$500						\$285	\$535			\$359	\$350	\$650	\$405		\$410					\$340		
Firmwide Billing Rate Med	\$390						\$252	\$425			\$322	\$300	\$525	\$345		\$345					\$300		

Fiscal Year 2008 Jackson Kelly	2008 Jackso	2008 Jenner & Block	2008 Jones Day	2008 Jones, Carrere	2008 Katten	2008 Kellev L	2008 Kenyor	2008 Kilpatri	2008 Kirklan	2008 Kirkpat Ellis	2008 Knobbe	2008 Kramer	2008 Lane Powell	2008 Latham	2008 Lathrop	2008 LeClair Ryan	2008 Leonard	2008 <b>Lewis a</b>	2008 Lewis E	2008 Lewis,	2008 Lindqui	2008 Littler Mendelson	2008 <b>Locke I</b>
Firm Name on Kelly	Jackson Lewis	& Block	Day	2008 Jones, Walker, Waechter, Poitevent, Carrere & Denegre	Katten Muchin Rosenman	2008 Kellev Drye & Warren	n & Kenyon	ick Stockton	Kirkland & Ellis	Kirkpatrick & Lockhart Preston Gates Ellis	e, Martens, Olson & Bear	Kramer Levin Naftalis & Frankel	owell	Latham & Watkins	Lathrop & Gage	rRyan	Leonard, Street and Deinard	Lewis and Roca	Lewis Brisbois Bisgaard & Smith	Rice & Fingersh	Lindquist & Vennum	Mendelson	Locke Lord Bissell & Liddell
Location Charleston, W. Va.	White Plains, N.Y.	Chicago	Cleveland	New Orleans	Chicago	New York	New York	Atlanta	Chicago	Pittsburgh	Irvine, Calif.	New York	Seattle	Los Angeles	Kansas City, Mo.	Richmond, Va.	Minneapolis	Phoenix	Los Angeles	St Louis	Minneapolis	San Francisco	Dallas
Partner Billing Rate High \$435	\$595	\$1,000		\$620		\$850		\$695			\$660		\$550		\$490		\$530			\$440	\$450		\$975
Partner Billing Rate Low \$200	\$250	\$525		\$225		\$430		\$310			\$375		\$325		\$255		\$310			\$225	\$280		\$375
Associate Billing Rate High \$335	\$405	\$495		\$250		\$520		\$400			\$430		\$325		\$265		\$315			\$305	\$295		\$450
Associate Billing Rate Low \$135	\$180	\$325		\$140		\$255		\$225			\$245		\$195		\$180		\$200			\$140	\$180		\$225
Associate Billing Rate Average \$155		\$393		\$186				\$290			\$287		\$270								\$218		\$313
Partner Billing Rate Average \$238		\$616		\$332				\$485			\$473		\$405								\$367		\$527
Firmwide Billing Rate Average \$214				\$277				\$400					\$327								608\$		\$433
Associate Billing Rate Med \$151		\$375		\$180				\$275			\$275		\$275								\$210		\$300
Partner Billing Rate Med \$247		\$575		\$325				\$475			\$450		\$400								\$375		\$525
Firmwide Billing Rate Med \$212				\$275				\$395			\$362		\$320								\$330		\$450

Fiscal Year	Firm Name	Location	Partner Billing Rate High	Partner Billing Rate Low	Associate Billing Rate High	Associate Billing Rate Low	Associate Billing Rate Average	Partner Billing Rate Average	Firmwide Billing Rate Average	Associate Billing Rate Med	Part	Firmwide Billing Rate Med
2002	ZUUS Loeb & Loeb	New York	\$925	\$450	\$200	9790	\$422	160\$	\$534	\$425	\$650	000\$
2008	2008 Lowenstein Sandler	Roseland, N.J.	\$765	\$400	\$405	\$220						
2008	2008 Luce, Forward, Hamilton & Scripps	San Diego	\$650	\$350	\$460	\$235	\$293	\$483	\$397	\$280	\$483	\$400
2008	2008 Manatt, Phelps & Phillips	Los Angeles	\$850	\$495	\$505	\$290	\$407	\$626	\$533	\$410	\$620	\$550
2008	2008 Marshall, Dennehey, Warner, Coleman & Philadelphia Goggin	Philadelphia	\$400	\$135	\$300	\$120						
2008	2008 McCarter & English	Newark, N.J.	\$635	\$325	\$395	\$215	\$280	\$435	\$323	\$285	\$440	\$345
2008	2008 McDonnell Boehnen	Chicago										
2008	2008 McEiroy, Deutsch, Mulvaney & Carpenter	Morristown, N.J.	\$450	\$295	\$225	\$135	\$180	\$250	\$195	\$165	\$235	\$215
2008	2008 McKee Nelson	New York	\$995	\$665	\$630	\$395						
2008	l McKenna Long & Aldridge	Atlanta	\$750	\$370	\$450	\$220	\$274	\$454				
2008	2008 Michael Best & Friedrich	Milwaukee	\$620	\$235	\$330	\$190	\$252	\$391	\$340	\$245	\$375	\$305
2008	2008 Miles & Stockbridge	Baltimore, Md.										
2008	Miller & Martin	Chattanooga, Tenn.	\$610	\$210	\$305	\$180	\$210	\$354	\$316	\$205	\$360	\$330
2008	2008 Miller, Canfield, Paddock and Stone	Detroit	\$620	\$275	\$375	\$165	\$240	\$425	\$347	\$240	\$425	\$322
2008	2008 Montgomery, McGracken, Walker & Rhoads	Philadelphia	\$585	\$360	\$365	\$195	\$270	\$440	\$360			
2008	2008 Moore & Van Allen	Charlotte, N.C.	\$770	\$280	\$365	\$180	\$256	\$425	\$238	\$250	\$410	\$273
2008	2008 Morgan, Lewis & Bockius	Philadelphia										
300Z		San Francisco										
2008 2008	2008 Munger, Tolles & Olson 2008 Neal, Gerber & Eisenberg	Los Angeles Chicago										
2008	2008 Netson Mullins Riley & Scarborough	Columbia, S.C.										
2008	2008 Nexsen Pruet	Columbia, S.C.	\$450	\$250	\$250	\$170						
2008	2008 Nixon Peabody	Boston	\$845	\$565	\$350	\$230	\$370	\$570	\$468	\$365	\$590	\$430
2008	2008 O'Melveny & Myers	New York										

Partner Billing Partner Billing Rate Rate High Rate Low High Seco S275 \$380	Associate B	Partner Billing Bate Average	Firmwide Billing Rate	Associate Billing Rate Med	Partner Billing	Firmwide Billing Rate
\$275	Dilling nate Fow				Hate Wed	Med
	\$185	\$367	\$325			
\$535	\$244	\$586	\$440	\$385	\$570	\$455
\$795 \$385 \$395	\$240					
\$785 \$260 \$515	\$165 \$329	\$498				
\$450 \$170 \$280	\$130	\$256	\$213	\$165	\$250	\$205
\$475 \$250 \$355	\$155 \$230	\$334	\$288	\$220	\$330	\$300
\$250 \$275	\$175					
\$280		\$419	\$347	\$245	\$420	\$342
\$375 \$580	\$235 \$423	\$626	\$441	\$390	\$585	\$425
\$320	\$210 \$276	\$436	\$346	\$275	\$440	\$350
\$225 \$295	\$170	\$333	\$292	\$215	\$325	\$300
\$635 \$315 \$370	\$220					
		\$441	\$372	\$255	\$430	\$380
	\$220	\$285	\$285 \$441		\$441	\$441 \$372

Fiscal	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	0000	2008	2008	2008
Firm Name	Schnader Harrison Segal & Lewis	Schulte Roth & Zabel	Sedgwick, Detert, Moran & Arnold	2008 Seward & Kissel	Shearman & Sterling	Sheppard, Mullin, Richter & Hampton	Sherman & Howard	Shoook, Hardy & Bacon	2008 Shughart Thomson & Kilroy	Shumaker, Loop & Kendrick	Shutts & Bowen	Sills Cummis & Gross	2008 Simpson Thacher & Bartlett	Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom	Smith, Gambrell & Russell	Snell & Wilmer	Squire, Sanders & Dempsey	Steptoe & Johnson LLP	Steptoe & Johnson PLLC	Stevens & Lee	2008 Stinson Morrison Hecker 2008 Stites & Harbison		Stoel Rives	2008 Strasburger & Price	Sullivan & Worcester
Location	Philadelphia	New York	San Francisco	New York	New York	Los Angeles	Denver	Kansas City, Mo.	Kansas City, Mo.	Toledo, Ohio	Miami	Newark, N.J.	New York	New York	Atanta	Phoenix	Cleveland	Washington	Clarksburg, W. Va.	Reading, Pa.	Kansas City, Mo. Louisville, Ky.	-	Portland, Ore.	Dallas	Boston
Partner Billing Rate High	\$625	\$895	\$650			\$795			\$500	\$500	\$540	\$725			\$585	\$725		\$895	\$325		\$680	C L	\$550	\$580	\$775
Partner Billing Rate Low	\$275	\$695	\$295			\$475			\$240	\$225	\$190	\$395		000	\$260	008\$		\$350	\$200		\$275	COCC	\$290	\$300	\$450
Associate Billing Rate High	\$375	\$650	\$390			\$580			\$245	\$380	\$240	\$425			\$335	\$420		\$685	\$250		\$290	L	\$365	\$395	\$490
Associate Billing Rate Low	\$160	\$255	\$185		1	\$275			\$185	\$185	\$190	\$215			\$155	\$170		\$210	\$170		\$190	ć r	\$170	\$185	\$270
Associate Billing Rate Average		\$495	\$262							\$227						\$271		\$384			\$224				\$343
Partner Billing Rate Average		\$770	\$398							\$329						\$444		\$591			\$363				\$603
Firmwide Billing Rate Average		\$550	\$318							\$297						\$354		\$477			\$293			\$334	\$485
Associate Billing Rate Med		\$510	\$260							\$225								\$395			\$228				\$330
Partner Billing Rate Med		\$755	\$380							\$325								\$580			\$373				\$600
Firmwide Billing Rate Med		\$530	\$300							\$315								\$470			\$275				\$495

Firmwide Billing Rate Med \$380	\$295	\$450		\$325				\$390	\$440								\$350					\$200	\$310
Partner Billing Rate Med \$530	\$355	\$530		\$420				\$445	\$525								\$380					\$450	\$345
Associate Billing Rate Med \$300	\$195	\$345		\$235				\$290	\$320								\$255					\$275	\$210
Firmwide Billing Rate Average \$379	\$294	\$453		\$330			\$262	\$385	\$440				\$513				\$344		068\$	\$448		\$248	\$300
Partner Billing Rate Average \$543	\$354	\$545		\$425			\$319	\$455	\$530				\$747				\$401		\$465	\$622		\$448	\$340
Associate Billing Rate Average \$316	\$217	\$334		\$240			\$205	\$290	\$329				\$456				\$260		\$282	\$376		\$275	\$210
Associate Billing Rate Low \$240	\$165	\$250	\$170	\$185			\$175	\$235	\$250				\$160	\$215	0.1.20		\$170		\$215	\$210		\$140	\$180
Associate Billing Rate High \$450	\$325	\$500	\$400	\$510			\$310	\$390	\$425				\$920	£375	0		\$355		\$385	\$625		\$370	\$255
Partner Billing Rate Low \$395	\$200	\$410	\$295	\$275			\$230	\$310	\$380				\$550	0350	0000		\$300		\$365	\$400		\$285	\$225
Partner Billing Rate High \$750	\$475	\$785	\$555	\$740			\$495	\$685	\$950				\$1,260	0093	0000		\$625		559\$	\$975		\$750	\$450
Location Atlanta	Cincinnati	Dallas	St Louis	Cleveland	San Francisco	Atlanta	Cleveland	Chicago	Washington	Houston	Columbus, Ohio	New York	New York	Philadelphia	Chicago	Washington	Richmond, Va.	New York	Dallas	Chicago	Philadelphia	Winston-Salem, N.C.	Louisville, Ky.
Firm Name Sutherland Asbill & Brennan	8 Taft Stettinius & Hollister	2008 Thompson & Knight	2008 Thompson Coburn	2008 Thompson Hine	8 Townsend and Townsend and Crew	2008 Troutman Sanders	2008 Ulmer & Berne		2008 Venable	Vinson & Elkins	2008 Vorys, Sater, Seymour and Pease					2008 Wiley Rein	8 Williams Mullen	Willkie Farr & Gallagher	Winstead	2008 Winston & Strawn	2008 Wolf, Block, Schorr and Solis-Cohen	2008 Womble Carlyle Sandridge & Rice	2008 Wyatt Tarrant & Combs
Fiscal Year 2008	2008	200	200	200	2008	200	200	200	200	2008	200	200	200.	200	200	200	200	2008	200	200	200	200	200

iscal	2009 Adams and	2009 Adorno & Yoss	2009 Allen Matki Natsis LLP	2009 Alston & Bird LLP	2009 Arent Fox LLP	2009 Armstrong Teasdale LLP	2009 Baker & Daniels LLP	2009 Baker & Hostetler	2009 Baker, Don Berkowitz,	2009 Balch & Bir	2009 Barnes & Thornburg LLP	2009 Bass, Berry & Sims PLC	2009 Best Best & Krieger LLP	2009 Bond, Scho	2009 Bowman and Brooke	2009 Briggs and Association	2009 Brinks Hofe	2009 Broad and Cassel	2009 Brown Rudnick LLP
Firm Name	Adams and Reese LLP	Yoss	2009 Allen Matkins Leck Gamble Mallory & Natsis LLP	ird LLP	ILP	Teasdale LLP	aniels LLP	ostetler	2009 Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz, PC	Balch & Bingham LLP	fhornburg LLP	y & Sims PLC	& Krieger LLP	2009 Bond, Schoeneck & King, PLLC	nd Brooke	2009 Briggs and Morgan, Professional Association	2009 Brinks Hofer Gilson & Lione	Cassel	dnick LLP
Location	New Orleans, LA	Miami, FL	City, ST	Atlanta, GA	Washington, DC	St Louis, MO	Indianapolis,			City, ST	Indianapolis, IN	Nashville, TN	Riverside, CA	Syracuse, NY	Minneapolis, MN	Minneapolis, MN	Chicago, IL	Orlando, FL	Boston, MA
Partner Billing Rate High	\$500	\$525		\$860	\$755	\$450			\$595		\$615		\$550	\$465	\$500	\$600	\$725	\$475	
Partner Billing Rate Low	\$245	\$225		\$450	\$420	\$320			\$236		\$375		\$310	\$200	\$250	\$290	\$335	\$260	
Associate Billing Rate High	\$310	\$300		\$555	\$485	\$315			\$315		\$390		\$380	\$275		\$315	\$425	\$350	
Associate Billing Rate Low	\$185	\$155		\$265	\$260	\$175			\$160		\$210		\$185	\$150		\$210	\$190	\$175	
Associate Billing Rate Average	\$220	\$255		\$388					\$218		\$246		\$245	\$191		\$240	\$292	\$242	
Partner Billing Rate Average	\$333	\$354		\$602					\$349		\$396		\$421	\$319		\$437	\$530	\$372	
Firmwide Billing Rate Average	\$252	\$308		\$491					\$302		\$345		\$310	\$278		\$373	\$407	\$307	
Associate Billing Rate Med	\$215	\$225		\$385					\$215		\$240		\$245	\$195		\$235	\$280	\$248	
Partner Billing Rate Med	\$325	\$350		\$590					\$340		\$395		\$425	\$320		\$440	\$550	\$375	
Firmwide Billing Rate Med	\$255	\$300		\$485					\$295		\$350		\$300	\$290		\$390	\$405	\$295	



Firmwide Billing Rate Med	\$370	\$430	\$400		\$325		\$395		\$390		\$515	\$355			\$518	\$270		\$310	\$473	
	\$3	\$	\$		\$3		\$3		83		\$2	83			\$2	\$2		83	\$	
Partner Billing	\$425	\$530	\$475		\$350		\$455		\$460		\$730	\$465	\$495		\$630	\$340		\$520	\$515	
Associate Billing Rate Med	\$250	\$330	\$300		\$300		\$285		\$320		\$435	\$305	\$295		\$415	\$200		\$300	\$338	
Firmwide Billing Rate Average	\$377	\$448	\$399		\$314		\$393		\$415		\$522	\$346	\$411		\$520	\$286		\$335	\$463	
Partner Billing Rate Average	\$446	\$541	\$467		\$352		\$457		\$488		\$730	\$474	\$507		\$633	\$345		\$520	\$527	\$440
Associate Billing Rate Average	\$247	\$331	\$311		\$247		\$278		\$325		\$434	\$300	\$310		\$403	\$204		\$315	\$335	\$290
Associate Billing Rate Low	\$185	\$160	\$195	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$195		\$220		\$290	\$210	\$230	\$185	\$265	\$165		\$165	\$225	\$200
Associate Billing Rate High	\$340	\$550	\$430	\$580	\$335	\$395	\$365		\$695		\$575	\$445	\$465	\$325	\$515	\$295		\$545	\$450	\$440
Partner Billing Rate Low	\$280	\$355	\$270	\$310	\$275	\$285	\$325		\$300		\$675	\$310	\$385	\$275	\$500	\$200		\$245	\$325	\$295
Partner Billing Rate High	\$795	\$765	\$625	\$1,020	\$490	\$700	\$750		\$880		\$785	\$775	\$750	\$575	\$950	\$525		\$795	\$795	\$595
Location	Denver, CO	St Louis, MO	Los Angeles, CA	Pittsburgh, PA	Birmingham, AL	Detroit, MI	Tampa, FL	Detroit, MI	Philadelphia, PA	Washington, DC	New York, NY	Seattle, WA	New York, NY	Detroit, MI	Washington, DC	Cincinnati, OH	New York, NY	Minneapolis, MN	Philadelphia, PA	Detroit, MI
Firm Name	Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck, LLP	2009 Bryan Cave LLP	2009 Buchalter Nemer	& Rooney PC	2009 Burr & Forman LLP	2009 Butzel Long A Professional Corporation Detroit, MI	2009 Carlton Fields, P.A.		ofessional	2009 Crowell & Moring LLP	2009 Curtis, Mallet-Prevost, Colt & Mosle LLP New York, NY	emaine LLP		2009 Dickinson Wright PLLC	2009 Dickstein Shapiro LLP	2009 Dinsmore & Shohl LLP	2009 DLA Piper US	2009 Dorsey and Whitney LLP	2009 Duane Morris LLP	2009 Dykema Gossett PLLC
Fiscal	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009

Firm Name Location	Edwards Angell Palmer & Dodge LLP Boston, MA	en, P.C.	2009 Fenwick & West LLP Mountain View, CA	Finnegan, Henderson, Farabow, Garrett Washington, DC & Dunner, L.L.P.	2009 Fish & Richardson P.C. Boston, MA			2009 Ford & Harrison LLP Atlanta, GA	2009 Fowler White Boggs P.A. Tampa, FL	2009 Fox Rothschild LLP Philadelphia, PA	2009 Fredrikson & Byron, P.A. Minneapolis. MN	Frost Brown Todd LLC Cincinnati, OH	2009 Fulbright & Jaworski L.L.P. Houston, TX	ne Sewell LLP	2008 Gibbons P.C. Newark, NJ	o i	2009 GrayRobinson, P.A. Orlando, FL	2009 Greenberg Traurig, LLP International	2009 Greenebaum Doil & McDonald PLLC Louisville, KY	2009 Harris Beach PLLC Rochester, NY	2009 Hiscock & Barclay, LLP Syracuse, NY
Partner Billing Rate High	\$750	\$855				\$810	\$1,035	\$595	\$535	\$675		\$490		\$775	\$700	\$485	\$750	\$850	\$505	\$475	\$650
Partner Billing Rate Low	\$325	\$350				\$470		\$340	\$295	\$310		\$200		\$380	\$365	\$310	\$170	\$345	\$225	\$250	\$195
Associate Billing Rate High	\$495	\$475				\$440		\$370	\$325	\$400		\$245		\$445	\$425	\$300	\$150	\$575	\$235	\$275	\$430
Associate Billing Rate Low	\$170	\$180				\$275	\$275	\$245	\$195	\$225		\$160		\$210	\$220	\$180	\$300	\$200	\$150	\$140	\$150
Associate Billing Rate Average	\$321	\$332					\$422	\$296	\$240	\$276		\$191		\$310				\$328	\$170		\$235
Partner Billing Rate Average	\$547	\$523					\$631	\$466	\$378	\$451		\$317		\$512				\$534	\$300		\$352
Firmwide Billing Rate Average	\$447	\$434					\$530	\$391	\$325	\$383		\$274		\$400				\$442	\$252		\$313
Associate Billing Rate Med	\$305	\$325				\$385	\$400	\$308	\$238	\$265		\$185		\$302				\$340	\$195		\$217
Partner Billing Rate Med	\$545	\$500					\$620	\$468	\$370	\$450		\$310		\$500				\$545	\$365		\$347
Firmwide Billing Rate Med	\$450	\$425					\$540	\$420	\$325	\$395		\$275		\$400				\$450	\$330		\$311

Firmwide Billing Rate Med \$310			6345		\$345		\$318			\$250	\$350					\$425			\$365				\$340
Partner Billing Rate Med \$360	Cees	0000	\$405		\$410		89£\$			\$285	\$425	\$625				\$495	\$480		\$415				\$390
Associate Billing Rate Med \$225	\$405	900	\$268		\$265		\$205			\$180	\$275	\$400				\$295	\$295		\$280				\$225
Firmwide Billing Rate Average \$318	0.540	0.00	8340		\$322		\$319			\$250	098\$					\$425			£833				\$320
Partner Billing Rate Average \$365	6676	0.00	\$41Z		\$415		\$376			\$289	\$425	\$655				\$515	\$492		\$420				\$386
Associate Billing Rate Average	00730	0000	\$200		\$295		\$220			\$180	\$282	\$409				\$310	\$308		\$272				\$236
Associate Billing Rate Low \$165	0.150	9 10	\$175		\$170		\$168			\$145	\$150	\$325		\$170	\$265	\$225	\$270		\$225	\$180		\$140	\$200
Associate Billing Rate High	029	0000	\$360		\$530		\$366			\$250	\$425	\$535		\$260	\$545	\$425	\$380		\$350	\$265		\$210	\$300
Partner Billing Rate Low \$225	9000	000	37.40 47.40		\$285		\$220			\$220	\$245	\$525		\$185	\$450	\$375	\$390		\$340	\$255		\$250	\$275
Partner Billing Rate High \$665	\$000	9000	\$615		\$635		\$777			\$445	\$715	\$1,000		\$620	\$875	\$700	\$680		\$575	\$490		\$450	\$600
Location Buffalo, NY	Machindra DO	Washington, DO	Denver, CO	New York, NY	Denver, CO	Detroit, MI	Kansas City and St. Louis, MO	Indianapolis, IN	Los Angeles, CA	Charleston, WV	White Plains, NY	Chicago, IL	New York, NY	New Orleans, LA	New York, NY	Atlanta, GA	Irvine, CA	New York, NY	Seattle, WA	Kansas City, MO	Richmond, VA	St Louis, MO	Minneapolis, MN
ccal Pirm Name 2009 Hodgson Russ LLP		2000 Hogari & Harison EEF		2009 Holland & Knight LLP		Cohn	ell Sanders LLP				2009 <b>Jackson Lewis LLP</b>	2009 Jenner & Block LLP	2009 Jones Day	Poitevent,			2009 Knobbe, Martens, Olson & Bear, LLP		Lane Powell Moss & Miller	2009 Lathrop & Gage LLP	2009 <b>LeClairRyan</b>	Lewis, Rice & Fingersh	Lindquist & Vennum PLLP
Fiscal Year 2009	0000	2002	ZOOZ	2006	2009	2005	2006	2006	2008	2006	2006	2006	2008	2006	2005	2006	2008	2005	2009	2006	2006	2006	2009

Fiscal	2009 C	2009 Li	5009 F	7 5003 <b>L</b> i	3009 <b>רו</b>	2009 M	2009 M	2009 M	2009 M	2009 M	2009 ℃	2009 M	2009 M	2009 MI	2009 M	2009 M	2009 M	2009 M	2009 M	2009 <b>N</b> e	2009 N
Firm Name	Littler Mendelson, A Professional Corporation	2009 Locke Lord Bissell & Liddell LLP	2009 Loeb & Loeb LLP	2009 Lowenstein Sandler PC	Luce, Forward, Hamilton & Scripps LLP	2009 Manatt, Phelps & Phillips, LLP	er, Coleman &	2009 Mcandrews Held & Malloy	2009 McCarter & English, LLP	2009 McDonnell Boehnen	2009 McEiroy, Deutsch, Mulvaney & Carpenter, LLP	2009 McKenna Long & Aldridge LLP	2009 Michael Best & Friedrich LLP	Miller & Martin PLLC	2009 Miller, Canfield, Paddock and Stone, P.L.C.	2009 Montgomery, McCracken, Walker & Rhoads	2009 Moore & Van Allen PLLC	Morris, Manning & Martin, LLP	2009 Morrison & Foerster LLP	Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough LLP Columbia, SC	2009 Nexsen Pruet
Location	San Francisco, CA	Dallas, TX	New York, NY and Los Angeles, CA	Roseland, NJ	San Diego, CA	Los Angeles, CA	Philadelphia, PA	Chicago, IL	Newark, NJ	Chicago, IL	Morristown, NJ	Atlanta, GA	Milwaukee, WI	Chattanooga, Tennessee	Detroit, MI	Philadelphia, PA	Charlotte, NC	Atlanta, GA	San Francisco, CA	Columbia, SC	Columbia, SC
Partner Billing Rate High	\$685	\$1,045	\$950	\$785	\$650	\$850	\$400	\$625	\$700	\$670	\$500	\$775	\$620	\$610	\$640	\$605	\$770	\$760		\$850	\$500
Partner Billing Rate Low	\$270	\$375	\$475	\$425	\$360	\$495	\$140	\$310	\$350	\$295	\$295	\$350	\$235	\$220	\$240	\$370	\$265	\$365		\$275	\$220
Associate Billing Rate High	\$435	\$525	\$550	\$500	\$540	\$505	\$310	\$290	\$395	\$270	\$250	\$470	\$305	\$315	\$400	\$375	\$355	\$425		\$405	\$250
Associate Billing Rate Low	\$125	\$200	\$285	\$230	\$240	\$290	\$125	\$220	\$205	\$225	\$145	\$220	\$190	\$180	\$175	\$215	\$180	\$200		\$190	\$175
Associate Billing Rate Average	\$278	\$310	\$400		\$304	\$383			\$307		\$185	\$284	\$235	\$235	\$254	\$266	\$259	\$353		\$248	
Partner Billing Rate Average	\$433	\$563	\$667		\$496	\$626			\$472		\$275	\$471	\$383	\$330	\$431	\$452	\$437	\$492		\$394	
Firmwide Billing Rate Average	\$361	\$458	\$566		\$410	\$531			\$396		\$200		\$305	\$305	\$368	\$396	\$359	\$424		\$340	
Associate Billing Rate Med	\$275	\$295	\$425		\$290	\$410			\$315		\$170		\$225	\$230	\$245		\$250	\$360		\$245	
Partner Billing Rate Med	\$425	\$560	\$650		\$490	\$620			\$468		\$250		\$375	\$375	\$440		\$420	\$490		\$380	
Firmwide Billing Rate Med	\$340	\$480	\$575		\$420	\$550			\$395		\$215		\$300	\$350	\$375		\$350	\$415		\$325	

Fiscal Year 2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009
Firm Name Sedgwick, Detert, Moran & Arnold LLP	Sheppard, Mullin, Richter & Hampton LLP	2009 Shook, Hardy & Bacon L.L.P.	Shumaker, Loop & Kendrick, LLP	Sills Cummis & Gross P.C.	2009 Smith, Gambrell & Russell, LLP	2009 Snell & Wilmer L.L.P.	2009 Steptoe & Johnson LLP	2009 Stevens & Lee, A Professional Corporation	Stinson Morrison Hecker LLP	2009 Stoel Rives LLP	2009 Strasburger & Price, LLP		2009 Sutherland Asbill & Brennan LLP	2009 Taft Stettinius & Hollister LLP	2009 Thompson & Knight LLP	2009 <b>Thompson Coburn LLP</b>	2009 TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW San Francisco, CA LLP	2009 Ulmer & Berne LLP	2009 Vedder Price, P.C.
Location San Francisco, CA	Los Angeles, CA	Kansas City, MO	Toledo, OH	Newark, NJ	Atlanta, GA	Phoenix, AZ	Washington, DC	Reading, PA	Kansas City, MO	Portland, OR	Dallas, TX	Boston, MA	Alfanta, GA and Washington, D.C.	Cincinnati, OH	Dallas, TX	St Louis, MO	San Francisco, CA	Cleveland, OH	Chicago, IL
Partner Billing Rate High \$670	\$715		\$515		\$740	\$775			\$680	\$600	\$610	\$800	\$800	\$475	\$825	\$595	\$750	\$550	\$700
Partner Billing Rate Low \$315	\$495		\$235		\$325	\$315			\$275	\$310	\$325	\$470	\$420	\$200	\$410	\$320	\$480	\$245	\$375
Associate Billing Rate High \$555	\$525		\$395		\$440	\$480			\$305	\$375	\$365	\$560	\$480	\$370	\$500	\$390	\$460	\$320	\$450
Associate Billing Rate Low \$225	\$285		\$165		\$195	\$175			\$195	\$190	\$210	\$285	\$220	\$160	\$265	\$190	\$260	\$180	\$245
Associate Billing Rate Average \$302			\$231		\$1,604	\$300			\$232	\$267		\$373	\$332	\$212	\$358		\$360	\$215	\$312
Partner Billing Rate Average \$418			\$341		\$1,402	\$473			\$391	\$430		\$629	\$563	\$346	\$560		\$530	\$340	\$469
Firmwide Billing Rate Average \$343			\$308			\$381			\$333	\$369	\$331	\$520	\$403		\$471		\$351	\$265	\$406
Associate Billing Rate Med \$295			\$235						\$228	\$265		\$365	\$320		\$365		\$360		\$300
Partner Billing Rate Med \$415			\$340						\$380	\$425		\$618	\$550		\$560		\$560		\$455
Firmwide Billing Rate Med \$335			\$330						\$345	\$375		\$525	\$390		\$458		\$360		\$410

Fiscal	Firm Name	uoijeoo-j	ng	Partner Billing	Associate Billing Rate	Associate	Associate Billing Rate	Partner Billing	Firmwide Billing Rate	Associate	Partner Billing	Firmwide Billing Rate
Year			Rate High	Rate Low	High	Billing Rate Low	Average	Rate Average	Average	Billing Rate Med	Rate Med	Med
2009	2009 <b>Venable LLP</b>	Washington, DC	\$975	\$420	\$450	\$275	\$336	\$556	\$457	\$325	\$550	\$460
2009	2009 Wiggin and Dana	New Haven, CT	\$650	\$360	\$410	\$220						
2009	2009 Wiley Rein LLP	Washington, DC										
2009	2009 Williams Mullen	Richmond, VA	\$710	\$315	\$380	\$220	\$274	\$417				
2009	2009 Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr LLP	Boston, MA										
2009	2009 Winstead PC	Dallas, TX	999\$	\$350	\$385	\$215	\$285	\$462	\$395			
2009	2009 Winston & Strawn LLP	Chicago, IL	<del>9</del> 66\$	\$400	\$670	\$210	\$372	\$638	\$498	\$345	\$630	\$480
2009	2009 Womble Carlyle Sandridge & Rice	Winston Salem, NC	057\$	\$300	\$415	\$140	\$285	\$462	\$213	\$281	\$465	\$130
2009	2009  Wyatt, Tarrant & Combs, LLP	Louisville, KY	\$475	\$250	\$265	\$190	\$218	\$350	\$284	\$220	\$355	\$305

scal	Firm Name	Location	Partner Billing Rate High	Partner Billing Rate Low	Associate Billing Rate High	Associate Billing Rate Low	Associate Billing Rate Average	Partner Billing Rate Average	Firmwide Billing Rate Average	Associate Billing Rate Med	Partner Billing Rate Med	Firmwide Billing Rate Med
201	2010 Adams and Reese	New Orleans	\$550	\$250	\$290	\$195	\$229	\$344	\$265	\$235	\$340	\$270
2010		Miami										
2010		Washington										
201	Leck Gamble Mallory &	Los Angeles										
2010	Alston & Bird	Atlanta	\$865	\$450	\$590	\$270	\$405	\$627	\$515	\$405	\$615	\$505
201	Andrews Kurth	Houston	001	L	9	1						
2010	Arent Fox	Haddonileid, NJ Washington	\$260	\$305	\$340	\$240						
2010	Teasdale	St Louis	\$475	\$300	\$325	\$200						
2010		Washington										
201		Indianapolis										
201	2010 Baker & Hostetler	Cieveland										
2010	Bearman, Caldwell &	Memphis, TN	\$595	\$255	\$320	\$165	\$231	\$357	\$312	\$230	\$348	\$305
2010	Ballard Spahr	Philadelphia										
201	0	Indianapolis	\$613	\$298	\$355	\$225	\$261	\$416	\$367	\$260	\$415	\$375
201		Nashville, TN										
2010	2010 Benesch, Friedlander, Coplan & Aronoff	Cleveland	\$575	\$350	\$360	\$195	\$245	\$335	\$315			
2010		Riverside, Calif.	\$550	\$310	\$395	\$225						
2010	Sutchen	Boston										
201		Philadelphia	\$855	\$440	\$550	\$250	\$361	\$615	\$510	\$323	\$625	\$495
201	neck & King	Syracuse, NY	\$475	\$220	\$280	\$160	\$208	\$309	\$260	\$210	\$330	\$255
2010	2010 Briggs and Morgan	Minneapolis, MN	\$600	\$290	\$315	\$210	\$240	\$437	\$373	\$235	\$440	\$390
201	& Lione	Chicago	\$725	\$345	\$420	\$195	\$308	\$541	\$435	\$285	\$560	\$435
201	Broad and Cassel	Orlando, FI	\$475	\$260	\$350	\$175	\$242	\$372	\$307	\$248	\$375	\$295
2010	Brown Rudnick	Boston										
201	Hyatt Farber Schreck	Denver	\$810	\$295	\$360	\$200	\$256	\$463	\$391	\$255	\$448	\$380
207	Bryan cave	St. Louis	06/40	9270	4220	9100	454	9222	9404	9343	9240	9450
2010	Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney	Los Angeles Pittsburgh	\$900	\$270	\$450	\$195	\$328	\$490	\$415	\$310	\$480	\$415
2010		Birmingham, AL	\$500	\$210	\$335	\$200	\$250	\$361	\$328	\$250	\$365	\$330
201		Detroit	\$750	\$300	\$375	\$200						
201	Taft LLP	New York										
2010	2010 Cahiil Gordon Reindel LLP	New York Tampa, FL	\$775	\$325	\$375	\$195	\$268	\$455	\$388	\$270	\$455	\$390
2010	Parke	New York	\$995	\$390	\$625	\$110	\$442	692\$	\$456	\$455	\$785	\$450
201	2010 Chapman and Cutler	Chicago										
201	iii	Detroit										
2010		Palo Alto, CA										
201	5und	Washington	0000	6240	2020	2000	2000	2002	6400	0000	6.476	\$300
201	2010 Cozell Collinor	Machington	9000	0.00	0000	0770	9220	10to	<b>4422</b>	0200	0.44	0000
2010	Colt & Mosle	Washington New York	\$785	\$675	\$575	062\$	\$365	\$669	\$489	\$350	\$675	\$480
2010		Seattle	\$795	\$320	\$435	\$210	\$304	\$486	\$355	\$305	\$480	\$365
2010	Day Pitney	Florham Park, NJ										
2010	2010 Dewey & Leboeuf LLP	New York										
2010		Detroit	\$575	\$355	\$275	\$195						
201		Washington	\$950	\$525	\$530	\$265	\$426	\$656	\$546	\$450	\$650	\$530
201	2010 Dinsmore & Shohl	Cincinnati	\$590	\$220	\$300	\$175	\$222	\$360	\$302	\$218	\$355	\$290



Firmwide Billing Rate Med		\$395	\$483	\$450		\$450	\$425						\$570		025%	\$415	\$280		\$450	\$410					\$480				\$275	\$320			\$425	\$345			\$331				\$300					\$425		\$415	C380	200
Partner Billing Rate Med		\$515	\$545	\$515		\$575	\$500						\$640		\$388	\$470	\$325		\$525	\$475					\$580				\$305	\$370			\$495	\$410			\$375				\$430					\$520		\$485	\$430	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Associate Billing Rate Med		\$270	\$350	\$320		\$303	\$320					\$325	\$410		\$255	\$290	\$190		\$310	\$275					\$350				\$195	\$230			\$280	\$285			\$205				\$275					\$320		\$335	\$275	> 14
Firmwide Billing Rate Average		\$410	\$483	\$445		\$451	\$429						\$554		\$350	\$407	\$279		\$445	\$404					\$453				\$311	\$328			\$418	\$355			\$329				\$364					\$425		\$432	\$340	25
Partner Billing Rate Average		\$515	\$550	\$495		\$571	\$520						\$654		\$400	\$473	\$326		\$531	\$479					\$550				\$348	\$374			\$499	\$415			\$357				\$428					\$527		\$511	4431	· > !
Associate Billing Rate Average		\$285	\$349	\$325		\$323	\$325						\$426		\$250	\$298	\$189		\$311	\$289					\$332				\$234	\$238			\$288	\$295			\$220				\$282					\$320		\$332	\$278	> 14
Associate Billing Rate Low		\$180	\$135	\$225	\$150	\$200	\$180				\$220	\$275	\$255	C L C	\$205	\$235	\$150		\$195	\$250	0070	\$180		\$150	\$200	\$140			\$150	\$175			\$185	\$170			\$171			\$155	\$150	\$140	-:	1.00	\$275	\$225		\$285	\$230	\$180
Associate Billing Rate High		\$290	\$480	\$450	\$320	\$610	\$450				\$360	\$440		000	\$315	\$475	\$250		\$445	\$450	0,00	\$340		\$315	\$610	\$250			\$440	\$410			\$480	\$530			\$415			\$275	\$440	\$275	- : : : :	L C	\$265	\$465		\$450	4350	\$265
Partner Billing Rate Low		\$440	\$240	\$360	\$250	\$345	\$350				\$340	\$460		1100	\$375	\$315	\$200		\$380	\$390	L	\$325		\$225	\$322	\$275			\$195	\$230			\$300	\$285			\$230			\$245	\$260	\$195			\$465	\$375		\$395	¢310	\$255
Partner Billing Rate High		\$795	\$850	\$635	\$625	\$780	\$850				\$505	\$730	\$1,035	0000	\$575	\$690	\$515		\$815	\$790	1010	\$480		\$750	\$875	\$500			\$650	\$665			\$850	\$635			\$804			\$495	\$715	\$620		000	2800	\$730		\$710	\$600	\$490
Location	Chicago	Minneapolis	Philadelphia	Detroit	Pittsburgh	Boston	New York	Winneapolis	Washington	Boston	Atlanta	New York	Milwaukee	Boston	Alama Fi	Philadelphia	Cincinnati	Houston	Dallas	Newark, NJ	Los Angeles	Milwaukee	San Francisco, CA		New York	Rochester, NY	Dallas	Cilicago	Syracuse, NY	Buffalo, NY	Washington	Washington	Washington	Denver	Detroit	New York	St Louis	Indianapolis	Los Angeles	Charleston, WV	White Plains, NY	New Orleans		Pittsburgh	New York	Atlanta	Chicago		New York	Kansas City
Fiscal Firm Name Year	2010 DLA Piper	۸	2010 Duane Morris			Edwards Angell Palmer & Dodge	2010 Epstein Becker & Green	2010 Faegre & Bensen LLP	rımleyalı, nemdersoli, rarabow, Garrett & Dunner	n.	2010 Fisher & Phillips	0	dner		2010 Ford & Harrison	Fox Rothschild	10 Frost Brown Todd	2010 Fulbright & Jaworski	Gardere Wynne Sewell	Gibbons	Crutcher LLP	2010 Goodwin Procter	Gordon & Bees	10 GrayRobinson	Greenberg Traurig		2010 Haynes and Boone	niisiaw & Culberson	lay		2010 <b>Hogan Lovelis</b>	2010 Holland & Hart LLP	Holland & Knight		Cohn	2010 Huppe & Williams		2010 Ice Miller LLP	Irell & Manella	Jackson Kelly	ewis	Jones Walker, Waechter, Poitevent.	Carrare & Denegre			2010 Kilpatrick Stockton		2010 Knobbe Martens Olson & Bear		2010 Lathrop & Gage

Firmwide Billing Rate Med					\$350	\$355	\$515				\$590			6400	9400	\$225	\$450	\$410	\$345		\$335			0350	0000	\$415				\$340		\$430					\$485					#254 #	\$260	9		\$360		\$325	2404
Partner Billing Rate Med					\$410	\$435	\$600				\$650	2		\$405	\$400	\$260	\$535	\$525	\$390		\$365			£42E	0	\$490				\$385		\$625					\$625				\$530	3000	\$350	2		\$435		\$350	) )
Associate Billing Rate Med					\$230	\$285	\$300				\$410	2		£21E	0.00	\$185	\$350	\$355	\$230		\$210			6250	0070	\$360				\$240		\$385					\$400					9400	\$230	2014		\$245		\$245	÷
Firmwide Billing Rate Average					\$330	\$372	\$486				\$568			4355	ccc¢	\$210	\$455	\$455	\$346		\$328			1964	100	\$424				\$347		\$429		\$351			\$482			\$326	\$447	9000	\$255	÷		\$364		\$317	-
Partner Billing Rate Average					\$415	\$445	\$599				\$651	-		\$408	9490	\$280	\$543	\$540	\$400		\$361		\$461	6444	1	\$492				\$388		\$613		\$389			\$645			\$547	\$534	\$020	\$272	1		\$438		\$357	·
Associate Billing Rate Average					\$235	\$296	\$320				\$405			€313	0100	\$190	\$355	\$366	\$239		\$218		\$284	\$257	10.70	\$353				\$248		\$388		\$285			\$399			\$329	\$354	9183	\$283	201		\$260		\$243	>
Associate Billing Rate Low				\$150		\$210	\$215	\$275	\$235	\$245	\$200	\$130	\$235	\$225	C17¢	\$150	\$220	\$220	\$190	\$220	\$180		\$205	6180	0	\$225				\$185	\$160	\$195		\$195			\$215			\$230	\$200	27.72	\$150	) )	\$185	\$210		\$165	\$225
Associate Billing Rate High				\$315		\$480	\$525	\$575	\$575	\$445	\$525	\$320	\$295	\$350	\$405	\$275	\$600	\$490	\$320	\$370	\$275		\$395	6250	0000	\$545				\$335	\$250	\$580		\$390			\$550			\$465	\$570	\$340	\$450	) }	\$325	\$400		\$325	\$450
Partner Billing Rate Low				\$260		\$290	\$400	\$475	\$440	\$350	\$525	\$145	\$325	\$260	9300	\$295	\$325	\$375	\$235	\$325	\$235		\$380	4265	0070	\$425				\$245	\$230	\$375		\$300			\$355			\$420	\$275	6100	\$ 180	2014	\$250	\$290		\$225	\$355
Partner Billing Rate High				\$460		\$650	\$1.120	\$975	\$825	\$670	\$850	\$410	\$600	\$675	\$620	\$550	\$830	\$775	\$650	\$695	\$610		\$625	£70E	9	\$760				\$850	\$525	\$905		\$575			\$990			\$825	\$825	4000	\$535	÷	\$600	\$660		\$525	\$650
Location	Richmond, VA	Minneapolis	l os Angeles	St Louis	Minneapolis	San Francisco	Dallas	New York	Roseland N.I	San Diedo	l os Angeles	Philadelphia	Birmingham, AL	Chicago Newsyk N I	newark, nJ	Morristown, N.J.	Richmond, Va.	Atlanta	Milwaukee	Baltimore	Chattanooga, TN	Detroit	Philadelphia	C M c#c/c40	Philadelphia	Atlanta	San Francisco CA	Los Angeles	Chicago	Columbia, SC	Columbia, SC	New York	Los Angeles	National	San Francisco, CA	Charlotte N.C.	Washington	New York	New York	Philadelphia	Seattle	Carolin Carolin	New Orleans Buffalo NY	New York	Kansas City, MO	Milwaukee	Pittsburgh	Milwaukee Akmn OH	Costa Mesa, CA
Fiscal Year	2010 LeClairRyan, Professional Corporation	2010 Leonard, Street and Deinard	2010 Lewis and Roca 2010 Lewis Brishois Bisgaard & Smith			2010 Littler Mendelson		2010 Loeb & Loeb	2010 Lowenstein Sandler	2010 Lice Forward Hamilton & Scripps	Manatt Phelos & Phillips	ner, Coleman &		2010 McAndrews, Held & Malloy		2010 McEiroy, Deutsch, Mulvaney & Carpenter	2010 McGuireWoods	2010 McKenna Long & Aldridge	2010 Michael Best & Friedrich			2010 Miller, Canfield, Paddock and Stone	2010 Montgomery, McCracken, Walker &	2040 Moses & Von Allon	2010 Morgan Lewis & Bockins	2010 Morris, Manning & Martin	2010 Morrison & Energia	2010 Munger. Tolles & Olson	Neal, Gerber & Eisenberg	s Riley & Scarborough		2010 Nixon Peabody	O'Meiveny & Myers	2010 Ogletree, Deakins, Nash, Smoak &	2010 Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe	2010 Parker Poe Adams & Bernstein LLP	2010 Patton Boggs	2010 Paul, Hastings, Janofsky & Walker	2010 Paul, Weiss, Rifkind Wharton & Garrison	2010 Pepper Hamilton	2010 Perkins Coie	00000	2010 Phelps Dunbar 2010 Phillips Lytle	2010 Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman	2010 Polsinelli Shughart	Quarles & Brady		2010 Reinhart Boerner Van Deuren	2010 Rutan & Tucker

Fiscal	Firm Name	Location	Partner Billing Rate High	Partner Billing Rate Low	Associate Billing Rate	Associate Billing Rate Low	Associate Billing Rate	Partner Billing Rate Average	Firmwide Billing Rate	Associate Billing Rate Med	Partner Billing Rate Med	Firmwide Billing Rate	
		111111111111111111111111111111111111111	0004	000	mgm ***********************************	1000	Average	0.00	Average	1000	04470	Med	
200	2010 Saul Ewing	Prilladelprila	9000	\$3Z0	0/44	\$2.25	90.00	946	3412	C07¢	9470	\$470	
20	2010 Schnader Harrison Secal & Lewis	Chicago										Ī	
20	2010 Schulte Both & Zabel	New York	\$895	\$735	\$690	\$275							
20	2010 Schwabe, Williamson & Wyatt	Portland, OR	\$540	\$310	\$450	\$200	\$260	\$415	\$350	\$250	\$410	\$340	
20	plot	San Francisco											
20		Chicago	\$770	\$335	\$535	\$185	\$325	\$505	\$377	\$320	\$503	\$375	
20		Los Angeles	\$820	\$495	\$620	\$270							
20	2010 Sherman & Howard	New York											
20	2010 Shook, Hardy & Bacon	Kansas City, MO											
20	2010 Shumaker, Loop & Kendrick	Toledo, OH	\$540	\$250	\$315	\$185	\$246	\$366	\$331	\$235	\$365	\$350	
20	2010 Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom	New York											
20	2010 Smith, Gambrell & Russell	Atlanta	\$740	\$325	\$440	\$195							
20	2010 Snell & Wilmer	Phoenix, AZ	\$795	\$315	\$550	\$175	\$282	\$486	\$338	\$265	\$475	\$325	
20	2010 Squire, Sanders & Dempsey	Cleveland											
20	2010 Steptoe & Johnson LLP	Washington											
20	2010 Stevens & Lee	Reading, PA											
20	2010 Stinson Morrison Hecker	Kansas City, MO											
20	2010 Stites & Harbison	Louisville, KY											
20	2010 Stoel Rives	Portland, OR	\$600	\$315	\$330	\$190	\$270	\$441	\$381	\$265	\$443	\$395	
20	2010 Strasburger & Price	Dallas	\$617	\$250	\$306	\$194	\$243	\$372	\$336	\$245	\$393	\$351	
20		Boston	\$830	\$475	\$535	\$290	\$383	\$647	\$537	028\$	\$623	\$543	
20	2010 Sutherland Asbill & Brennan	Atlanta											
Ċ			0016	000	1000		\$004	010	200	1000	CLC 6	1,70	
202	2010 latt Stettinius & Hollister	Cincinnati	\$500	\$220	\$365	\$105	\$221	\$358	\$315	\$225	\$320	\$315	
20	2010 Thompson & Knight	Dallas	\$825	\$410	\$440	\$265							
202	2010 Inompson Copurn	St. Louis	\$610	\$300	\$385	\$190			****		-	4	
20	2010 Townsend and Townsend and Crew	San Francisco, CA	\$750	\$470	\$460	\$260	\$345	\$563	\$320	\$325	\$550	\$290	
20	2010 Troutman Sanders	Atlanta	1016		-								
7	Und Ulmer & Berne	Cieveland	9202	9200	0000	0010	0000	007	1014	1000	9		
200	2010 Vedder Price	Vinceping	\$7.20	\$370	\$300	\$255	\$320	\$483	\$425	\$325	9470	\$425	
4	Veriable	1000	0000	0	0000	007\$	2000	0000	9 1	0000	0000	000	
20	2010 Vorvs. Sater, Seymour and Pease	Columbus, OH											
20	2010 Wachtell, Lipton, Rosen & Katz	New York											
20	2010 Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP	New York											
20	2010 White and Williams	Philadelphia											
20	2010 Wildman, Harrold, Allen & Dixon LLP	Chicago											
20	2010 Wilev Bein	Washington											
20	2010 Williams Mullen	Richmond, Va.	\$645	\$315	\$370	\$230	\$279	\$428	\$368	\$280	\$395	\$340	
20	2010 Willkie Farr & Gallagher LLP	New York											
20	2010 Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr	Washington											
oc.	2000	0000	9055	07040	0000	£24E	6004	6463	2002				
700	2010 Winstead	Dallas	94000	9240	9230	97.13	9291	9402	4090	2400	0004	400	
200	2010 Winston & Strawn	Windon Solom NC	\$1,075	\$473	\$0.10 \$44E	\$250	\$393	9070	\$460	8008	\$000 6465	\$490	
77	2010 Womble Carlyle Sandridge & Rice	Winston Salem, NC	\$070	9300	9440	92.0	9781	040	\$31.Z	\$200	\$400	92/0	
ZC Z	2010 Wyatt, Tarrant & Combs	Louisville, KY	\$200	\$245	\$285	\$180						_	

National Law Journal asked the respondents to its 2011 survey of the nation's 250 largest law firms to prange of hourly billing rates. Firms that supplied the information are listed in alphabetical order.

Buildinns

	PRINCIPAL OR	AVERAGE FULL-TIME	FIRM	WIDE		PAR	TNER			A
	LARGEST OFFICE	EQUIVALENT ATTORNEYS*	AVERAGE	MEDIAN	HIGH	LOW	AVERAGE	MEDIAN	HIGH	LOW
Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz	Memphis, Tenn.	527	\$311	\$310	\$595	\$250	\$357	\$345	\$315	\$16
er	Riverside, Calif.	195	\$358	\$360	\$575	\$275	\$417	\$420	\$375	\$20
in .	Minneapolis	185			\$625	\$325	145		\$305	\$23
	Orlando, Fla.	160	\$377	\$350	\$575	\$295	\$435	\$395	\$350	\$18
	St. Louis	908	\$475	\$460	\$795	\$375	\$565	\$553	\$540	\$20
	Detroit	176			\$700	\$325	\$440		\$425	\$22
	Tampa, Fla.	270	\$397	\$400	\$815	\$320	\$470	\$470	\$380	\$19
	Philadelphia	504	\$439	\$410	\$900	\$305	\$510	\$490	\$550	\$22
	Parsippany, N.J.	324	\$447	\$450	\$960	\$380	\$537	\$525	\$470	\$23
t	Detroit	229			\$600	\$325			\$320	\$20
	Washington	335	\$560	\$550	\$1,000	\$540	\$680	\$670	\$545	\$22
hl	Cincinnati	407	\$308	\$295	\$630	\$150	\$373	\$370	\$310	\$13
	New York	3,348	\$585	\$615	\$1,120	\$530	\$747	\$730	\$730	\$32
ey	Minneapolis	567	\$426	\$405	\$810	\$295	\$526	\$525	\$465	\$19
	Philadelphia	629	\$503	\$500	\$875	\$375	\$575	\$570	\$530	\$22
	Detroit	333	\$406	\$400	\$665	\$310	\$482	\$485	\$395	\$26
Green	New York	300	\$428	\$425	\$850	\$350	\$519	\$500	\$550	\$19
, Harper & Scinto	New York	168	- 5		\$730	\$460		\$525	\$440	\$27
	Philadelphia	450	\$413	\$420	\$725	\$325	\$486	\$483	\$455	\$19
d	Cincinnati	401	\$296	\$295	\$515	\$205	\$340	\$340	\$265	\$15
Sewell	Dallas	265	\$435	\$450	\$815	\$380	\$550	\$550	\$500	\$22
	Newark, N.J.	199	\$505	\$450	\$725	\$400	\$563	\$505	\$475	\$28
	Rochester, N.Y.	176			\$390	\$275			\$260	\$16
ıy	Syracuse, N.Y.	174	\$269	\$240	\$750	\$195	\$304	\$265	\$350	\$15
	Buffalo, N.Y.	199			\$685	\$240	\$378	\$360	\$420	\$18
it	Washington	910	\$445	\$455	\$895	\$300	\$530	\$520	\$495	\$17
l & Reed	New York	300	\$633	\$615	\$990	\$625	\$828	\$800	\$695	\$27
	St. Louis	551	\$341	\$340	\$850	\$225	\$395	\$390	\$425	\$17
	Charleston, W.Va.	170	\$275	\$275	\$505	\$255	\$319	\$325	\$260	\$15
	New York	425	\$661	\$665	\$1,080	\$685	\$831	\$835	\$705	\$3
arren	New York	321	\$474	\$400	\$925	\$480	\$634	\$645	\$595	\$2
s, Olson & Bear	Irvine, Calif.	268	\$439	\$415	\$735	\$415	\$525	\$500	\$495	\$29
	Seattle	180	\$405	\$425	\$645	\$340	\$460	\$450	\$360	\$2
	Kansas City, Mo.	281	\$337	\$340	\$735	\$275	\$390	\$390	\$410	\$20

	PRINCIPAL OR	AVERAGE FULL-TIME	FIRM	WIDE		PAR	TNER			
	LARGEST OFFICE	EQUIVALENT ATTORNEYS*	AVERAGE	MEDIAN	HIGH	LOW	AVERAGE	MEDIAN	HIGH	L
	Washington	512	\$546	\$540	\$990	\$410	\$659	\$645	\$570	\$:
n	Philadelphia	459		10.00	\$825	\$380	\$557		\$460	\$:
	Seattle	693	\$462		\$875	\$285	\$550	\$545	\$590	\$.
	New Orleans	280	\$236	\$225	\$465	\$190	\$281	\$275	\$245	\$
art	Kansas City, Mo.	466		10-	\$630	\$275			\$335	\$
	Philadelphia	220	\$431	\$450	\$750	\$350	\$502	\$490	\$495	\$
Zabel	New York	406	\$615	\$630	\$935	\$770	\$846	\$840	\$675	\$
	Chicago	702	\$437	\$425	\$790	\$355	\$528	\$525	\$505	\$
in, Richter & Hampton	Los Angeles	465			\$860	\$505			\$635	\$
o & Kendrick	Toledo, Ohio	208	\$345	\$365	\$555	\$265	\$364	\$375	\$320	\$
	Portland, Ore.	373	\$385	\$395	\$625	\$320	\$451	\$450	\$500	\$
Price	Dallas	181	\$363	\$362	\$630	\$211	\$395	\$397	\$332	\$
night	Dallas	319	\$520	\$520	\$875	\$440	\$594	\$585	\$460	\$
urn	St. Louis	- 325			\$750	\$315			\$445	\$
	Cleveland	179	\$316		\$585	\$280	\$405	- =	\$390	\$
	Chicago	246	\$445	\$445	\$735	\$295	\$500	\$490	\$520	\$
	Dallas	265	\$406		\$680	\$365	\$477		\$410	\$
wn	Chicago	868	\$557	\$550	\$1,130	\$580	\$713	\$700	\$600	\$
& Combs	Louisville, Ky.	181	\$312	\$350	\$500	\$240	\$325	\$375	\$275	\$

Document #1530697



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## s report using aiternatives to the billable

a listing of law firms, in alphabetical order, that reported use of alternative billing methods. We asked firms to report of revenue obtained through variations on the billable hour and true alternatives. 2010 percentages appear who

		AVERAGE FULL-		REVENUE B	REAKDOW
	PRINCIPAL OR LARGEST OFFICE	TIME EQUIVALENT		ON THE BILLABLE HOUR	PERCENTAGE OF THROUGH ALTE
	LARGEST UFFICE	ATTORNEYS*	2011	2010	2011
	Houston	355	78	15	10
Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz	Memphis, Tenn.	527	5	35	20
er	Riverside, Calif.	195	25	5	7
chen	Boston	901	5	5	5
ın	Minneapolis	185	90		
	St. Louis	908			20
	Detroit	176	24		8
kersham & Taft	New York	481	27		25
	Philadelphia	504			21
	Parsippany, N.J.	324	.46		7
hl	Cincinnati	407	49		5
	New York	3,348	95		3.5
ey	Minneapolis	567	5	5	5
	Philadelphia	629	5	4	6
	Detroit	333	84	. 83	100
	Atlanta	173	24	20	9
d	Cincinnati	401	74	76	2.8
Sewell	Dallas	265	15	20	5
	Newark, N.J.	199	20	20	10
y	Syracuse, N.Y.	174	46		21
	Buffalo, N.Y.	199	22		4
nt die	Washington	910			9
ms	Richmond, Va.	855	12		7.4
	St. Louis	551	95	95	5
	White Plains, N.Y.	614	95	30	13
	New York	425			20
	Seattle	180	50	50	10
ns	New York	1,931			2.8
	Kansas City, Mo.	281	80		10
Phillips	Los Angeles	322	82	66	12

		AVERAGE FULL-		REVENUE B	REAKDOWN
	PRINCIPAL OR LARGEST OFFICE	TIME EQUIVALENT		N'S REVENUE OBTAINED ON THE BILLABLE HOUR	PERCENTAGE OF FI Through Altern
		ATTORNEYS*	2011	2010	2011
	Kansas City, Mo.	466	15	15	15
	Pittsburgh	1,449	5	10	10
	Philadelphia	220	40	35	5
	San Francisco	345	16	16	1
	Chicago	702	83		17
Richter & Hampton	Los Angeles	465	15	13	15
Kendrick	Toledo, Ohio	208	10	10	5
LLP	Washington	408			16
	Dallas	181	80	30	20
ht	Dallas	319	30	30	3
	Cleveland	179	45		15
	Chicago	246	10		3
S	Philadelphia	216			20
	Washington	270	35	25	4
ering Hale and Dorr	Washington	890	50		15
	Dallas	265	10	6	3
ombs	Louisville, Ky.	181	30		10

om NLJ 250 published in April 2011.

/!

## ur wish list is our to-do list.

re not just listening to your comments and criticisms.

We're acting on them.



#### e are some of the suggestions we've recently implemented — with more to con

FREE quarterly electronic newsletter providing information on upcoming

NEW!

More books online, including more regional content

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### 1112 Leholf fliell billing Lates by associate

Below is a sampling of hourly rates charged by law firms that establish billing rates based on associate classical firms that supplied this information are listed in alphabetical order.

	PRINCIPAL OR Largest office	AVERAGE FTE ATTORNEYS*	1ST YEAR	2D YEAR	3D YEAR	4TH YEAR	5TH YEAR	6TH YEAR	
	St. Louis	908	\$200-\$365	\$200-\$355	\$250-\$385	\$225-\$420	\$300-\$430	\$335-\$455	
	Detroit	176	\$225	-377					
	Tampa, Fla.	270	\$195-\$210	\$210-\$225	\$210-\$225	\$225-\$240	\$250-\$265	\$255-\$315	
r	Philadelphia	504	\$225-\$290	\$225-\$290	\$235-\$320	\$245-\$360	\$245-\$340	\$265-\$350	
	Parsippany, N.J.	324	\$244	\$275	\$295	\$291	\$301	\$335	
nt	Detroit	229	\$195	\$205	\$210	\$220	\$235	\$245	
0 1 22 3	Washington	335	\$225-\$290	\$275-\$385	\$330-\$440	\$345-\$465	\$360-\$490	\$390-\$510	
hl	Cincinnati	407	\$185	\$195	\$210	\$225	\$235	\$245	
	New York	3,348	\$345	\$395	\$455	\$520	\$580	\$620	
ey	Minneapolis	567	\$238	\$253	\$260	\$297	\$305	\$336	
	Philadelphia	629	\$280	\$305	\$320	\$335	\$350	\$370	
, Harper & Scinto	New York	168	\$275	\$300	\$325	\$350	\$370	\$385	
	Philadelphia	450	\$220-\$235	\$230-\$265	\$240-\$285	\$240-\$285	\$245-\$300	\$270-\$455	\$
d	Cincinnati	401	\$150	\$165-\$185	\$175-\$185	\$180-\$235	\$190-\$230	\$190-\$240	\$
Sewell	Dallas	265	\$225	\$260	\$290	\$320	\$350	\$370	
	Rochester, N.Y.	176	\$160	\$175	\$200	\$215	\$215	\$235	
y la	Syracuse, N.Y.	174	\$175	\$175	\$195	\$195	\$205	\$205	
& Reed	New York	300	\$350	\$450	\$510	\$540	\$570	\$600	
	Charleston, W.Va.	170	\$180	\$195	\$205	\$215	\$225	\$240	
	New York	425	\$320	\$410	\$475	\$525	\$570	\$595	
nrren	New York	321	\$305	\$305	\$350	\$380	\$420	\$450	
, Olson & Bear	Irvine, Calif.	268	\$295	\$320	\$345	\$370	\$395		
	Seattle	180	\$250	\$260	\$260-\$340	\$260-\$305	\$260-\$325	\$265-\$340	\$3
Title Title	Kansas City, Mo.	281	\$205	\$210	\$220	\$230	\$250	\$255	
, Mulvaney & Carpenter	Morristown, N.J.	272	\$185	\$195	\$215	\$225	\$235	\$250	
Aldridge	Atlanta	425	\$275	\$280	\$317	\$346	\$354	\$371	
iedrich	Milwaukee	208	\$210	\$205-\$230	\$210-\$250	\$220-\$300	\$225-\$260	\$240-\$295	\$2
ley & Scarborough	Columbia, S.C.	399	\$170-\$265	\$210-\$345	\$215-\$295	\$225-\$325	\$195-\$335	\$205-\$350	\$2
	Washington	512	\$300	\$325	\$355	\$385	\$415	\$445	72
	Seattle	693	\$264	\$273	\$284	\$291	\$321	\$337	
	Philadelphia	220		\$245-\$255	\$250-\$280	\$275-\$300	\$275-\$340	\$275-\$310	\$2

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#### **Exhibit B**

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# LAFFEY MATRIX

History

Case Lavv

Expert Opinions

See the Matrix

Contact us

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Links

<b>F</b>							
			Years Out of Law School *				
Year	Adjustmt Factor**	Paralegal/ Law Clerk	1-3	4-7	8-10	11-19	20 +
6/01/12- 5/31/13	1.0258	\$170	\$312	\$383	\$554	\$625	\$753
6/01/11- 5/31/12	1.0352	\$166	\$305	\$374	\$540	\$609	\$734
6/01/10- 5/31/11	1.0337	\$161	\$294	\$361	\$522	\$589	\$709
6/01/09- 5/31/10	1.0220	\$155	\$285	\$349	\$505	\$569	\$686
6/01/08- 5/31/09	1.0399	\$152	\$279	\$342	\$494	\$557	\$671
6/01/07-5/31/08	1.0516	\$146	\$268	\$329	\$475	\$536	\$645
6/01/06-5/31/07	1.0256	\$139	\$255	\$313	\$452	\$509	\$614
6/1/05-5/31/06	1.0427	\$136	\$249	\$305	\$441	\$497	\$598
6/1/04-5/31/05	1.0455	\$130	\$239	\$293	\$423	\$476	\$574
6/1/03-6/1/04	1.0507	\$124	\$228	\$280	\$405	\$456	\$549
6/1/02-5/31/03	1.0727	\$118	\$217	\$267	\$385	\$434	\$522
6/1/01-5/31/02	1.0407	\$110	\$203	\$249	\$359	\$404	\$487
6/1/00-5/31/01	1.0529	\$106	\$195	\$239	\$345	\$388	\$468
6/1/99-5/31/00	1.0491	\$101	\$185	\$227	\$328	\$369	\$444
6/1/98-5/31/99	1.0439	\$96	\$176	\$216	\$312	\$352	\$424
6/1/97-5/31/98	1.0419	\$92	\$169	\$207	\$299	\$337	\$406
6/1/96-5/31/97	1.0396	\$88	\$162	\$198	\$287	\$323	\$389
6/1/95-5/31/96	1.032	\$85	\$155	\$191	\$276	\$311	\$375
6/1/94-5/31/95	1.0237	\$82	\$151	\$185	\$267	\$301	\$363

The methodology of calculation and benchmarking for this Updated Laffey Matrix has been approved in a number of cases. See, e.g., McDowell v. District of Columbia, Civ. A. No. 00-594 (RCL), LEXSEE 2001 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 8114 (D.D.C. June 4, 2001); Salazar v. Dist. of Col., 123 F.Supp.2d 8 (D.D.C. 2000).

<sup>\* &</sup>quot;Years Out of Law School" is calculated from Line 1 of each year, when most law students

USCA Case #14-7077

Document #1530697

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graduate. "1-3" includes an attorney in his 1st, 2nd and 3rd years of practice, measured from date of graduation (June 1). "4-7" applies to attorneys in their 4th, 5th, 6th and 7th years of practice. An attorney who graduated in May 1996 would be in tier "1-3" from June 1, 1996 until May 31, 1999, would move into tier "4-7" on June 1, 1999, and tier "8-10" on June 1, 2003.

\*\* The Adjustment Factor refers to the nation-wide Legal Services Component of the Consumer Price Index produced by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the United States Department of Labor. USCA Case #14-7077 Document #1530697 Filed: 01/07/2015 Page 247 of 605

#### **Exhibit C**

Account Number: 8800918057

Albany New York
Atlanta Philadelphia
Brussels San Diego
Denver San Francisco
Los Angeles Washington, DC



Tel: 404.527.4000 www.mckennalong.com

Remittance Address: P.O. Box 116573, Atlanta, GA 30368 Wire Transfer Instructions
Bank Name: SunTrust Bank
Bank Address: 25 Park Place, 26th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30303
ABA Number: 061000104
Swift Code/Bank Code: SNTRUS3A
Account Name: McKenna Long & Aldridge LLP

ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGED TAX ID NO. 52-1237458

Record Press, Inc. Attn: Hugh Wilmot

229 West 36th Street, 8th Fl.

New York, , NY 10018

Client No.: 030620 Invoice No. 610016

FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES RENDERED through July 31, 2008

RE: QUI TAM

\* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* SUMMARY OF ACTIVITY \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \*

Name	Hours	Billed	Bill
	Worked	Per Hour	Amount
W. O'Brien L. Norrett Himes J. Johnson	7.40	480.00	3,552.00
	2.70	460.00	1,242.00
	3.70	220.00	814.00
Total	13.80	======	5,608.00
TOTAL FEES:			\$ 5,608.00

EXPENSES:

COPY CHARGES 1.20 LONG DISTANCE TELEPHONE 0.36

TOTAL EXPENSES: \$ 1.56

TOTAL THIS STATEMENT: \$ 5,609.56

Account Number: 8800918057

Albany New York Atlanta Philadelphia Brussels San Diego Denver San Francisco

Washington, DC



Tel: 404.527.4000 www.mckennalong.com

Remittance Address:

Wire Transfer Instructions Bank Name: SunTrust Bank Bank Address: 25 Park Place, 26th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30303 ABA Number: 061000104 Swift Code/Bank Code: SNTRUS3A Account Name: McKenna Long & Aldridge LLP

P.O. Box 116573, Atlanta, GA 30368

ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGED TAX ID NO. 52-1237458

Record Press, Inc. Attn: Hugh Wilmot

Los Angeles

229 West 36th Street, 8th Fl.

New York, , NY 10018

Client No.: 030620 Invoice No. 612105

Matter No.: 030620.00001 Invoice Date: September 8, 2008 \_\_\_\_\_\_

FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES RENDERED through August 31, 2008

RE: QUI TAM

TOTAL EXPENSES:

TOTAL THIS STATEMENT:

Name	Hours Worked	Billed Per Hour	Bill Amount
J.G. Horan W. O'Brien J. Johnson	0.20 4.20 0.90	600.00 480.00 220.00	120.00 2,016.00 198.00
Total	====== 5.30	=======	2,334.00
			_,,
TOTAL FEES:			\$ 2,334.00
EXPENSES:			
LONG DISTANCE TELEPHONE	3	2.18	

2.18

2,336.18

Albany New York Atlanta Philadelphia Brussels San Diego Denver San Francisco Los Angeles Washington, DC



Tel: 404.527.4000 www.mckennalong.com

Remittance Address: P.O. Box 116573, Atlanta, GA 30368

Wire Transfer Instructions Bank Name: SunTrust Bank Bank Address: 25 Park Place, 26th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30303 ABA Number: 061000104 Swift Code/Bank Code: SNTRUS3A

Account Name: McKenna Long & Aldridge LLP

Account Number: 8800918057

ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGED TAX ID NO. 52-1237458

Record Press, Inc. Attn: Hugh Wilmot

229 West 36th Street, 8th Fl.

New York, , NY 10018

Client No.: 030620 Invoice No. 616891

Matter No.: 030620.00001 Invoice Date: October 6, 2008 \_\_\_\_\_\_

FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES RENDERED through September 30, 2008

RE: QUI TAM

\* \* \* \* SUMMARY OF ACTIVITY \* \* \* \* \*

	Hours	Billed	Bill
Name	Worked	Per Hour	Amount
J.G. Horan	0.50	600.00	300.00
W. O'Brien	19.50	480.00	9,360.00
J. Johnson	5.60	220.00	1,232.00
=======================================	======	=======	=========
Total	25.60		10,892.00

TOTAL FEES: \$ 10,892.00

**EXPENSES:** 

2.40 COPY CHARGES LONG DISTANCE TELEPHONE 1.81

TOTAL EXPENSES: 4.21

TOTAL THIS STATEMENT: \$ 10,896.21 Albany New York Atlanta Philadelphia Brussels San Diego San Francisco Denver Los Angeles Washington, DC



Tel: 404.527.4000 www.mckennalong.com

Remittance Address:

Wire Transfer Instructions Bank Name: SunTrust Bank Bank Address: 25 Park Place, 26th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30303 ABA Number: 061000104 Swift Code/Bank Code: SNTRUS3A Account Name: McKenna Long & Aldridge LLP Account Number: 8800918057

P.O. Box 116573, Atlanta, GA 30368

ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGED TAX ID NO. 52-1237458

Record Press, Inc. Attn: Hugh Wilmot

229 West 36th Street, 8th Fl.

New York, , NY 10018

Invoice No. 622873 Client No.: 030620

Matter No.: 030620.00001 Invoice Date: November 10, 2008 \_\_\_\_\_\_

FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES RENDERED through October 31, 2008

RE: QUI TAM

	Hours	Billed	Bill
Name	Worked	Per Hour	Amount
J.G. Horan	0.30	600.00	180.00
W. O'Brien	10.00	480.00	4,800.00
T.K. Halloran	0.40	390.00	156.00
J. Johnson	13.90	220.00	3,058.00
=======================================	=======	=======	========
Total	24.60		8,194.00

TOTAL FEES: 8,194.00

EXPENSES:

COPY CHARGES 38.70 DELIVERY SERVICE/MESSENGER 137.35 LONG DISTANCE TELEPHONE 22.12 PACER SEARCHES 5.76

TOTAL EXPENSES: \$ 203.93

TOTAL THIS STATEMENT: 8,397.93

Account Number: 8800918057

McKenna Long Attornevs at Law

> Tel: 404.527.4000 www.mckennalong.com

Remittance Address: P.O. Box 116573, Atlanta, GA 30368

Wire Transfer Instructions Bank Name: SunTrust Bank Bank Address: 25 Park Place, 26th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30303 ABA Number: 061000104 Swift Code/Bank Code: SNTRUS3A Account Name: McKenna Long & Aldridge LLP

ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGED TAX ID NO. 52-1237458

Record Press, Inc. Attn: Hugh Wilmot

New York

Philadelphia

San Francisco

Washington, DC

San Diego

Albany

Atlanta

Brussels

Denver

Los Angeles

229 West 36th Street, 8th Fl.

New York, , NY 10018

Invoice No. 626595 Client No.: 030620

Matter No.: 030620.00001 Invoice Date: December 1, 2008 \_\_\_\_\_\_

FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES RENDERED through November 28, 2008

RE: QUI TAM

	Hours	Billed	Bill
Name	Worked	Per Hour	Amount
W. O'Brien	7.10	480.00	3,408.00
T.K. Eberhart	3.50	230.00	805.00
J. Johnson	0.50	220.00	110.00
V.T. Lam	1.30	210.00	273.00
=======================================	======	=======	=========
Total	12.40		4,596.00

TOTAL FEES: 4,596.00

**EXPENSES:** 

COPY CHARGES 0.45 LONG DISTANCE TELEPHONE 6.16 18.00 OTHER

TOTAL EXPENSES: 24.61

TOTAL THIS STATEMENT: 4,620.61

Account Number: 8800918057

New York

Philadelphia

San Francisco

Washington, DC

San Diego

Albany

Atlanta

Brussels

Denver

Los Angeles

McKenna Long Attornevs at Law

> Tel: 404.527.4000 www.mckennalong.com

Remittance Address: P.O. Box 116573, Atlanta, GA 30368

Wire Transfer Instructions Bank Name: SunTrust Bank Bank Address: 25 Park Place, 26th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30303 ABA Number: 061000104 Swift Code/Bank Code: SNTRUS3A Account Name: McKenna Long & Aldridge LLP

ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGED TAX ID NO. 52-1237458

Record Press, Inc. Attn: Hugh Wilmot

229 West 36th Street, 8th Fl.

New York, , NY 10018

Invoice No. 632021 Client No.: 030620

Matter No.: 030620.00001 Invoice Date: January 13, 2009 \_\_\_\_\_\_

FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES RENDERED through December 31, 2008

RE: QUI TAM

\* \* \* \* SUMMARY OF ACTIVITY \* \* \* \* \*

	Hours	Billed	Bill
Name	Worked	Per Hour	Amount
W. O'Brien	4.50	480.00	2,160.00
T.K. Eberhart	5.00	230.00	1,150.00
V.T. Lam	2.20	210.00	462.00
=======================================	=======	=======	=========
Total	11.70		3,772.00

TOTAL FEES: 3,772.00

**EXPENSES:** 

COPY CHARGES 79.35 DELIVERY SERVICE/MESSENGER 13.00 LEXIS SEARCHES 198.57 20.00 LOCAL TRAVEL LONG DISTANCE TELEPHONE 5.80 PACER SEARCHES 21.04

TOTAL EXPENSES: 337.76

TOTAL THIS STATEMENT: 4,109.76 Albany New York
Atlanta Philadelphia
Brussels San Diego
Denver San Francisco
Los Angeles Washington, DC



Tel: 404.527.4000 www.mckennalong.com

Remittance Address: P.O. Box 116573, Atlanta, GA 30368 Wire Transfer Instructions
Bank Name: SunTrust Bank
Bank Address: 25 Park Place, 26th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30303
ABA Number: 061000104
Swift Code/Bank Code: SNTRUS3A

Account Name: McKenna Long & Aldridge LLP
Account Number: 8800918057

ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGED TAX ID NO. 52-1237458

Record Press, Inc. Attn: Hugh Wilmot

229 West 36th Street, 8th Fl.

New York, , NY 10018

Client No.: 030620 Invoice No. 636815

FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES RENDERED through January 31, 2009

RE: QUI TAM

**EXPENSES:** 

COPY CHARGES 4.95
DELIVERY SERVICE/MESSENGER 13.00

TOTAL EXPENSES: \$ 17.95

TOTAL THIS STATEMENT: \$ 17.95

Albany New York
Atlanta Philadelphia
Brussels San Diego
Denver San Francisco
Los Angeles Washington, DC



Tel: 404.527.4000 www.mckennalong.com

Remittance Address: P.O. Box 116573, Atlanta, GA 30368 Wire Transfer Instructions
Bank Name: SunTrust Bank
Bank Address: 25 Park Place, 26th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30303
ABA Number: 061000104
Swift Code/Bank Code: SNTRUS3A

Account Name: McKenna Long & Aldridge LLP
Account Number: 8800918057

ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGED TAX ID NO. 52-1237458

Record Press, Inc. Attn: Hugh Wilmot

229 West 36th Street, 8th Fl.

New York, , NY 10018

Client No.: 030620 Invoice No. 641320

FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES RENDERED through February 28, 2009

RE: QUI TAM

**EXPENSES:** 

LEXIS SEARCHES 70.60

TOTAL EXPENSES: \$ 70.60

TOTAL THIS STATEMENT: \$ 70.60

Albany New York Atlanta Philadelphia Brussels San Diego San Francisco Denver Los Angeles Washington, DC



Tel: 404.527.4000 www.mckennalong.com

Remittance Address: P.O. Box 116573, Atlanta, GA 30368

Wire Transfer Instructions Bank Name: SunTrust Bank Bank Address: 25 Park Place, 26th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30303 ABA Number: 061000104 Swift Code/Bank Code: SNTRUS3A Account Name: McKenna Long & Aldridge LLP

Account Number: 8800918057

ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGED TAX ID NO. 52-1237458

Record Press, Inc. Attn: Hugh Wilmot

229 West 36th Street, 8th Fl.

New York, , NY 10018

Client No.: 030620 Invoice No. 659905

Matter No.: 030620.00001 Invoice Date: July 6, 2009

\_\_\_\_\_\_

FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES RENDERED through June 30, 2009

RE: QUI TAM

	Hours	Billed	Bill
Name	Worked	Per Hour	Amount
J.G. Horan	4.80	630.00	3,024.00
W. O'Brien	8.10	505.00	4,090.50
T.K. Eberhart	5.60	240.00	1,344.00
V.T. Lam	0.20	220.00	44.00
=======================================	=======	=======	=========
Total	18.70		8,502.50

TOTAL FEES: 8,502.50

**EXPENSES:** 

COPY CHARGES 22.20 DELIVERY SERVICE/MESSENGER 6.50 LONG DISTANCE TELEPHONE 0.36 PACER SEARCHES 13.44 WESTLAW RESEARCH 359.77

TOTAL EXPENSES: 402.27

TOTAL THIS STATEMENT: 8,904.77

Wire Transfer Instructions

McKenna Long & Aldridge LLP

Tel: 404.527.4000 www.mckennalong.com

Remittance Address:
P.O. Box 116573, Atlanta, GA 30368

Bank Name: SunTrust Bank Bank Address: 25 Park Place, 26th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30303 ABA Number: 061000104 Swift Code/Bank Code: SNTRUS3A Account Name: McKenna Long & Aldridge LLP

Account Number: 8800918057

P.O. Box 116573, Atlanta, GA 30368

ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGED TAX ID NO. 52-1237458

Record Press, Inc. Attn: Hugh Wilmot

New York

Philadelphia

San Diego

San Francisco

Washington, DC

229 West 36th Street, 8th Fl.

New York, , NY 10018

Client No.: 030620 Invoice No. 665684

FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES RENDERED through July 31, 2009

RE: QUI TAM

**EXPENSES:** 

Albany

Atlanta

Brussels

Denver

Los Angeles

COPY CHARGES 10.20
LEXIS SEARCHES 150.27
LOCAL TRAVEL 42.76
LONG DISTANCE TELEPHONE 3.63

TOTAL EXPENSES: \$ 206.86

TOTAL THIS STATEMENT: \$ 206.86

Albany New York
Atlanta Philadelphia
Brussels San Diego
Denver San Francisco
Los Angeles Washington, DC



Tel: 404.527.4000 www.mckennalong.com

Remittance Address: P.O. Box 116573, Atlanta, GA 30368 Wire Transfer Instructions
Bank Name: SunTrust Bank
Bank Address: 25 Park Place, 26th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30303
ABA Number: 061000104
Swift Code/Bank Code: SNTRUS3A

Account Name: McKenna Long & Aldridge LLP
Account Number: 8800918057

ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGED TAX ID NO. 52-1237458

Filed: 01/07/2015

Record Press, Inc. Attn: Hugh Wilmot

229 West 36th Street, 8th Fl.

New York, , NY 10018

Client No.: 030620 Invoice No. 670033

FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES RENDERED through August 31, 2009

RE: QUI TAM

Name	Hours Worked	Billed Per Hour		Bill Amount
W. O'Brien	1.00	505.00	====	505.00
Total	1.00			505.00
TOTAL FEES:			\$	505.00
EXPENSES:				
LONG DISTANCE TELEPHONE		2.90		
TOTAL EXPENSES:			\$	2.90
TOTAL THIS STAT	EMENT:		\$	507.90

Albany New York Atlanta Philadelphia Brussels San Diego Denver San Francisco Los Angeles Washington, DC



Tel: 404.527.4000 www.mckennalong.com

Remittance Address: P.O. Box 116573, Atlanta, GA 30368

Wire Transfer Instructions Bank Name: SunTrust Bank Bank Address: 25 Park Place, 26th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30303 ABA Number: 061000104 Swift Code/Bank Code: SNTRUS3A

Account Name: McKenna Long & Aldridge LLP

Account Number: 8800918057

ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGED TAX ID NO. 52-1237458

Record Press, Inc. Attn: Hugh Wilmot

229 West 36th Street, 8th Fl.

New York, , NY 10018

Invoice No. 673917 Client No.: 030620

Matter No.: 030620.00001 Invoice Date: October 5, 2009 \_\_\_\_\_\_

FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES RENDERED through September 30, 2009

RE: QUI TAM

\* \* \* \* SUMMARY OF ACTIVITY \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \*

	Hours	Billed	Bill
Name	Worked	Per Hour	Amount
J.G. Horan	2.30	630.00	1,449.00
W. O'Brien	3.10	505.00	1,565.50
T.K. Eberhart	1.10	240.00	264.00
=======================================	======	=======	========
Total	6.50		3,278.50

TOTAL FEES: 3,278.50

**EXPENSES:** 

19.00 LOCAL TRAVEL LONG DISTANCE TELEPHONE 1.81

TOTAL EXPENSES: 20.81

TOTAL THIS STATEMENT: 3,299.31 McKenna Long & Aldridge LLP

Tel: 404.527.4000 www.mckennalong.com

Remittance Address: P.O. Box 116573, Atlanta, GA 30368 Wire Transfer Instructions
Bank Name: SunTrust Bank
Bank Address: 25 Park Place, 26th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30303
ABA Number: 061000104
Swift Code/Bank Code: SNTRUS3A
Account Name: McKenna Long & Aldridge LLP

Account Number: 8800918057

ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGED TAX ID NO. 52-1237458

Record Press, Inc. Attn: Hugh Wilmot

New York

Philadelphia

San Francisco

Washington, DC

San Diego

Albany

Atlanta

Brussels

Denver

Los Angeles

229 West 36th Street, 8th Fl.

New York, , NY 10018

FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES RENDERED through October 31, 2009

RE: QUI TAM

\* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* SUMMARY OF ACTIVITY \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \*

Name	Hours	Billed	Bill
	Worked	Per Hour	Amount
W. O'Brien	7.90	505.00	3,989.50
T.K. Eberhart	1.30	240.00	312.00
Total	9.20	======	4,301.50
TOTAL FEES:			\$ 4,301.50

EXPENSES:

COPY CHARGES 1.80 LONG DISTANCE TELEPHONE 2.53

TOTAL EXPENSES: \$ 4.33

T O T A L T H I S S T A T E M E N T: \$ 4,305.83

Albany New York
Atlanta Philadelphia
Brussels San Diego
Denver San Francisco
Los Angeles Washington, DC



Tel: 404.527.4000 www.mckennalong.com

Remittance Address: P.O. Box 116573, Atlanta, GA 30368 Wire Transfer Instructions
Bank Name: SunTrust Bank
Bank Address: 25 Park Place, 26th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30303
ABA Number: 061000104
Swift Code/Bank Code: SNTRUS3A

Account Name: McKenna Long & Aldridge LLP
Account Number: 8800918057

ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGED TAX ID NO. 52-1237458

Record Press, Inc. Attn: Hugh Wilmot

229 West 36th Street, 8th Fl.

New York, , NY 10018

Client No.: 030620 Invoice No. 682467

FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES RENDERED through November 30, 2009

RE: QUI TAM

	Hours	Billed	Bill
Name	Worked	Per Hour	Amount
W. O'Brien	2.10	505.00	1,060.50
=======================================	======	=======	========
Total	2.10		1,060.50

TOTAL FEES: \$ 1,060.50

**EXPENSES:** 

COPY CHARGES 1.50 LOCAL TRAVEL 28.25

TOTAL EXPENSES: \$ 29.75

TOTAL THIS STATEMENT: \$ 1,090.25

New York

Philadelphia

San Francisco

Washington, DC

San Diego

Albany

Atlanta

Brussels

Denver

Los Angeles

McKenna Long & Aldridge LLP

Tel: 404.527.4000 www.mckennalong.com

Remittance Address:

P.O. Box 116573, Atlanta, GA 30368

Wire Transfer Instructions Bank Name: SunTrust Bank Bank Address: 25 Park Place, 26th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30303 ABA Number: 061000104 Swift Code/Bank Code: SNTRUS3A

Account Name: McKenna Long & Aldridge LLP

Account Number: 8800918057

ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGED TAX ID NO. 52-1237458

Record Press, Inc. Attn: Hugh Wilmot

229 West 36th Street, 8th Fl.

New York, , NY 10018

Invoice No. 691985 Client No.: 030620

Matter No.: 030620.00001 Invoice Date: February 12, 2010 \_\_\_\_\_\_

FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES RENDERED through January 31, 2010

RE: QUI TAM

	Hours	Billed	Bill
Name	Worked	Per Hour	Amount
W. O'Brien	7.30	505.00	3,686.50
S.L. Ellis	3.20	285.00	912.00
=======================================	=======	=======	=========
Total	10.50		4,598.50

TOTAL FEES: 4,598.50

**EXPENSES:** 

COPY CHARGES 10.50 LEXIS SEARCHES 12.19 LOCAL TRAVEL 39.50 LONG DISTANCE TELEPHONE 3.98 PACER SEARCHES 3.84 WESTLAW RESEARCH 164.11

TOTAL EXPENSES: \$ 234.12

TOTAL THIS STATEMENT: 4,832.62 Albany New York Atlanta Philadelphia Brussels San Diego Denver San Francisco Los Angeles Washington, DC



Tel: 404.527.4000 www.mckennalong.com

Remittance Address: P.O. Box 116573, Atlanta, GA 30368

Wire Transfer Instructions Bank Name: SunTrust Bank Bank Address: 25 Park Place, 26th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30303 ABA Number: 061000104 Swift Code/Bank Code: SNTRUS3A

Account Name: McKenna Long & Aldridge LLP Account Number: 8800918057

ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGED TAX ID NO. 52-1237458

Record Press, Inc. Attn: Hugh Wilmot

229 West 36th Street, 8th Fl.

New York, , NY 10018

Invoice No. 695082 Client No.: 030620

Matter No.: 030620.00001 Invoice Date: March 5, 2010

\_\_\_\_\_\_

FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES RENDERED through February 28, 2010

RE: QUI TAM

Name	Hours Worked	Billed Per Hour	Bill Amount
W. O'Brien J.W. Lomas Jr.	0.50 3.70	530.00 405.00	265.00 1,498.50
Total	4.20	======	1,763.50
TOTAL FEES:			\$ 1,763.50

**EXPENSES:** 

COPY CHARGES 0.75 LONG DISTANCE TELEPHONE 1.81

TOTAL EXPENSES: \$ 2.56

TOTAL THIS STATEMENT: 1,766.06 McKenna Long & Aldridge LLP

Tel: 404.527.4000 www.mckennalong.com Wire Transfer Instructions
Bank Name: SunTrust Bank
Bank Address: 25 Park Place, 26th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30303
ABA Number: 061000104
Swift Code/Bank Code: SNTRUS3A
Account Name: McKenna Long & Aldridge LLP
Account Number: 8800918057

Remittance Address: P.O. Box 116573, Atlanta, GA 30368

ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGED TAX ID NO. 52-1237458

Record Press, Inc. Attn: Hugh Wilmot

New York

Philadelphia

San Diego

San Francisco

Washington, DC

Albany

Atlanta

Brussels

Denver

Los Angeles

229 West 36th Street, 8th Fl.

New York, , NY 10018

Client No.: 030620 Invoice No. 699452

\_\_\_\_\_

FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES RENDERED through March 31, 2010

RE: QUI TAM

	Hours	Billed	Bill
Name	Worked	Per Hour	Amount
J.W. Lomas Jr.	6.80	405.00	2,754.00
=======================================	=======	=======	========
Total	6.80		2,754.00

TOTAL FEES: \$ 2,754.00

**EXPENSES:** 

COPY CHARGES 15.60

TOTAL EXPENSES: \$ 15.60

T O T A L T H I S S T A T E M E N T: \$ 2,769.60

USCA Case #14-7077 Document #1530697

Albany New York Atlanta Philadelphia Brussels San Diego San Francisco Denver Los Angeles Washington, DC



Tel: 404.527.4000 www.mckennalong.com

Remittance Address: P.O. Box 116573, Atlanta, GA 30368

Wire Transfer Instructions Bank Name: SunTrust Bank Bank Address: 25 Park Place, 26th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30303 ABA Number: 061000104 Swift Code/Bank Code: SNTRUS3A

> Account Name: McKenna Long & Aldridge LLP Account Number: 8800918057

ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGED TAX ID NO. 52-1237458

Record Press, Inc. Attn: Hugh Wilmot

229 West 36th Street, 8th Fl.

New York, , NY 10018

Invoice No. 704256 Client No.: 030620

Matter No.: 030620.00001 Invoice Date: May 10, 2010

\_\_\_\_\_\_

FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES RENDERED through April 30, 2010

RE: QUI TAM

\* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* SUMMARY OF ACTIVITY \* \* \* \* \* \*

	Hours	Billed	Bill
Name	Worked	Per Hour	Amount
W. O'Brien	2.00	530.00	1,060.00
J.W. Lomas Jr.	28.00	405.00	11,340.00
T.K. Eberhart	0.50	260.00	130.00
D.T. Malerba	1.50	125.00	187.50
=======================================	=======	=======	=========
Total	32.00		12,717.50

TOTAL FEES: \$ 12,717.50

**EXPENSES:** 

30.00 DELIVERY SERVICE/MESSENGER LONG DISTANCE TELEPHONE 6.90 WESTLAW RESEARCH 34.19

TOTAL EXPENSES: 71.09

TOTAL THIS STATEMENT: \$ 12,788.59 Albany New York Atlanta Philadelphia Brussels San Diego San Francisco Denver Los Angeles Washington, DC



Tel: 404.527.4000 www.mckennalong.com

Remittance Address: P.O. Box 116573, Atlanta, GA 30368

Wire Transfer Instructions Bank Name: SunTrust Bank Bank Address: 25 Park Place, 26th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30303 ABA Number: 061000104 Swift Code/Bank Code: SNTRUS3A

Account Name: McKenna Long & Aldridge LLP

Account Number: 8800918057

ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGED TAX ID NO. 52-1237458

Record Press, Inc. Attn: Hugh Wilmot

229 West 36th Street, 8th Fl.

New York, , NY 10018

Invoice No. 708809 Client No.: 030620

Matter No.: 030620.00001 Invoice Date: June 9, 2010

\_\_\_\_\_\_

FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES RENDERED through May 31, 2010

RE: QUI TAM

\* \* \* \* SUMMARY OF ACTIVITY \* \* \* \*

	Hours	Billed	Bill
Name	Worked	Per Hour	Amount
W. O'Brien	6.40	530.00	3,392.00
J.W. Lomas Jr.	33.30	405.00	13,486.50
E.W. Bolte	0.50	165.00	82.50
H. Kegan	1.70	85.00	144.50
=======================================	======	=======	========
Total	41.90		17,105.50

TOTAL FEES: \$ 17,105.50

**EXPENSES:** 

COPY CHARGES 2.25 LONG DISTANCE TELEPHONE 24.70 87.77 WESTLAW RESEARCH

TOTAL EXPENSES: 114.72

TOTAL THIS STATEMENT: \$ 17,220.22 Albany New York Atlanta Philadelphia Brussels San Diego San Francisco Denver Los Angeles Washington, DC



Tel: 404.527.4000 www.mckennalong.com

Remittance Address: P.O. Box 116573, Atlanta, GA 30368

Wire Transfer Instructions Bank Name: SunTrust Bank Bank Address: 25 Park Place, 26th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30303 ABA Number: 061000104 Swift Code/Bank Code: SNTRUS3A

Account Name: McKenna Long & Aldridge LLP Account Number: 8800918057

ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGED TAX ID NO. 52-1237458

Record Press, Inc. Attn: Hugh Wilmot

229 West 36th Street, 8th Fl.

New York, , NY 10018

Client No.: 030620 Invoice No. 712624

Matter No.: 030620.00001 Invoice Date: July 8, 2010

\_\_\_\_\_\_

FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES RENDERED through June 30, 2010

RE: QUI TAM

	Hours	Billed	Bill
Name	Worked	Per Hour	Amount
W. O'Brien	6.00	530.00	3,180.00
J.W. Lomas Jr.	58.50	405.00	23,692.50
C. Wagner	1.00	255.00	255.00
H. Kegan	6.20	85.00	527.00
=======================================	======	=======	========
Total	71.70		27,654.50

TOTAL FEES: \$ 27,654.50

**EXPENSES:** 

84.75 COPY CHARGES DELIVERY SERVICE/MESSENGER 61.00 LONG DISTANCE TELEPHONE 1.09 **MEALS** 49.83 PACER SEARCHES 13.92 WESTLAW RESEARCH 501.74

TOTAL EXPENSES: 712.33

TOTAL THIS STATEMENT: \$ 28,366.83

Account Number: 8800918057

Albany New York Atlanta Philadelphia Brussels San Diego San Francisco Denver Los Angeles Washington, DC



Tel: 404.527.4000 www.mckennalong.com

Remittance Address: P.O. Box 116573, Atlanta, GA 30368

Wire Transfer Instructions Bank Name: SunTrust Bank Bank Address: 25 Park Place, 26th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30303 ABA Number: 061000104 Swift Code/Bank Code: SNTRUS3A Account Name: McKenna Long & Aldridge LLP

ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGED TAX ID NO. 52-1237458

Record Press, Inc. Attn: Hugh Wilmot

229 West 36th Street, 8th Fl.

New York, , NY 10018

Client No.: 030620 Invoice No. 717267

Matter No.: 030620.00001 Invoice Date: August 10, 2010 \_\_\_\_\_\_

FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES RENDERED through July 31, 2010

RE: QUI TAM

\* \* \* \* SUMMARY OF ACTIVITY \* \* \* \* \*

	Hours	Billed	Bill
Name	Worked	Per Hour	Amount
W. O'Brien	3.90	530.00	2,067.00
J.W. Lomas Jr.	27.80	405.00	11,259.00
H. Kegan	2.50	85.00	212.50
=======================================	=======	=======	=========
Total	34.20		13,538.50

TOTAL FEES: \$ 13,538.50

**EXPENSES:** 

COPY CHARGES 0.15 LONG DISTANCE TELEPHONE 3.99 PACER SEARCHES 1.28 416.75 WESTLAW RESEARCH

TOTAL EXPENSES: 422.17

TOTAL THIS STATEMENT: \$ 13,960.67 McKenna Long

Attorneys at Law
Tel: 404.527.4000
www.mckennalong.com

Remittance Address: P.O. Box 116573, Atlanta, GA 30368 Wire Transfer Instructions
Bank Name: SunTrust Bank
Bank Address: 25 Park Place, 26th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30303
ABA Number: 061000104
Swift Code/Bank Code: SNTRUS3A

Account Name: McKenna Long & Aldridge LLP
Account Number: 8800918057

ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGED TAX ID NO. 52-1237458

Record Press, Inc. Attn: Hugh Wilmot

229 West 36th Street, 8th Fl.

New York, , NY 10018

New York

Philadelphia

San Diego

San Francisco

Washington, DC

Client No.: 030620 Invoice No. 721091

FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES RENDERED through August 31, 2010

RE: QUI TAM

**EXPENSES:** 

Albany

Atlanta

Brussels

Denver

Los Angeles

PACER SEARCHES 0.40 WESTLAW RESEARCH 10.74

TOTAL EXPENSES: \$ 11.14

TOTAL THIS STATEMENT: \$ 11.14

New York

Philadelphia

San Diego

San Francisco

Washington, DC

Albany

Atlanta

Brussels

Denver

Los Angeles

McKenna Long & Aldridge LLP Attorneys at Law

> Tel: 404.527.4000 www.mckennalong.com

Remittance Address: P.O. Box 116573, Atlanta, GA 30368

Wire Transfer Instructions Bank Name: SunTrust Bank Bank Address: 25 Park Place, 26th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30303 ABA Number: 061000104 Swift Code/Bank Code: SNTRUS3A

Account Name: McKenna Long & Aldridge LLP Account Number: 8800918057

ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGED TAX ID NO. 52-1237458

Filed: 01/07/2015

Record Press, Inc. Attn: Hugh Wilmot

229 West 36th Street, 8th Fl.

New York, , NY 10018

Client No.: 030620 Invoice No. 725577

Matter No.: 030620.00001 Invoice Date: October 11, 2010 \_\_\_\_\_\_

FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES RENDERED through September 30, 2010

RE: QUI TAM

\* \* \* \* \* \* SUMMARY OF ACTIVITY \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \*

Name	Hours Worked	Billed Per Hour		Bill Amount
J.W. Lomas Jr.	0.50	405.00	====	202.50
TOTAL FEES:			\$	202.50
PACER SEARCHES		1.20		
TOTAL EXPENSES:			\$	1.20
TOTAL THIS STAT	EMENT:		\$	203.70

Albany New York Atlanta Philadelphia Brussels San Diego Denver San Francisco Los Angeles Washington, DC McKenna Long Attornevs at Law

> Tel: 404.527.4000 www.mckennalong.com

Remittance Address: P.O. Box 116573, Atlanta, GA 30368

Wire Transfer Instructions Bank Name: SunTrust Bank Bank Address: 25 Park Place, 26th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30303 ABA Number: 061000104 Swift Code/Bank Code: SNTRUS3A

Account Name: McKenna Long & Aldridge LLP

Account Number: 8800918057

ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGED TAX ID NO. 52-1237458

Record Press, Inc. Attn: Hugh Wilmot

229 West 36th Street, 8th Fl.

New York, , NY 10018

Invoice No. 729734 Client No.: 030620

Matter No.: 030620.00001 Invoice Date: November 8, 2010 \_\_\_\_\_\_

FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES RENDERED through October 31, 2010

RE: QUI TAM

Name	Hours	Billed	Bill
	Worked	Per Hour	Amount
W. O'Brien J.W. Lomas Jr.	2.30	530.00	1,219.00
	18.20	405.00	7,371.00
Total	20.50	======	8,590.00
TOTAL FEES:			\$ 8,590.00

8,590.00

**EXPENSES:** 

PACER SEARCHES 1.60

TOTAL EXPENSES: 1.60

TOTAL THIS STATEMENT: 8,591.60

Account Number: 8800918057

Albany New York Atlanta Philadelphia Brussels San Diego San Francisco Denver Los Angeles Washington, DC



Tel: 404.527.4000 www.mckennalong.com

Remittance Address: P.O. Box 116573, Atlanta, GA 30368

Wire Transfer Instructions Bank Name: SunTrust Bank Bank Address: 25 Park Place, 26th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30303 ABA Number: 061000104 Swift Code/Bank Code: SNTRUS3A Account Name: McKenna Long & Aldridge LLP

ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGED TAX ID NO. 52-1237458

Record Press, Inc. Attn: Hugh Wilmot

229 West 36th Street, 8th Fl.

New York, , NY 10018

Invoice No. 733375 Client No.: 030620

Matter No.: 030620.00001 Invoice Date: December 2, 2010 \_\_\_\_\_\_

FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES RENDERED through November 30, 2010

RE: QUI TAM

Name	Hours Worked	Billed Per Hour	Bill Amount
W. O'Brien	3.30	530.00	1,749.00
J.W. Lomas Jr.	41.30	405.00	16,726.50
H. Kegan	0.70	85.00	59.50
=======================================	======	=======	=========
Total	45.30		18,535.00

TOTAL FEES: \$ 18,535.00

**EXPENSES:** 

COPY CHARGES 18.15 LOCAL TRAVEL 22.00 LONG DISTANCE TELEPHONE 2.18 PACER SEARCHES 1.20 WESTLAW RESEARCH 180.08

TOTAL EXPENSES: 223.61

TOTAL THIS STATEMENT: \$ 18,758.61 Albany New York Atlanta Philadelphia Brussels San Diego San Francisco Denver Los Angeles Washington, DC



Tel: 404.527.4000 www.mckennalong.com

Remittance Address: P.O. Box 116573, Atlanta, GA 30368

Wire Transfer Instructions Bank Name: SunTrust Bank Bank Address: 25 Park Place, 26th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30303 ABA Number: 061000104 Swift Code/Bank Code: SNTRUS3A

Account Name: McKenna Long & Aldridge LLP Account Number: 8800918057

ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGED TAX ID NO. 52-1237458

Record Press, Inc. Attn: Hugh Wilmot

229 West 36th Street, 8th Fl.

New York, , NY 10018

Invoice No. 738005 Client No.: 030620

Invoice Date: January 11, 2011 Matter No.: 030620.00001 \_\_\_\_\_\_

FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES RENDERED through December 31, 2010

RE: QUI TAM

	Hours	Billed	Bill
Name	Worked	Per Hour	Amount
W. O'Brien	7.50	530.00	3,975.00
J.W. Lomas Jr.	51.90	405.00	21,019.50
H. Kegan	11.80	85.00	1,003.00
=======================================	=======	=======	=========
Total	71.20		25,997.50

TOTAL FEES: \$ 25,997.50

**EXPENSES:** 

COPY CHARGES 39.60 LEXIS SEARCHES 84.45 LOCAL TRAVEL 20.00 LONG DISTANCE TELEPHONE 9.07 PACER SEARCHES 8.72 WESTLAW RESEARCH 1,194.70 WITNESS FEES 50.00

TOTAL EXPENSES: 1,406.54

TOTAL THIS STATEMENT: \$ 27,404.04

Account Number: 8800918057

Albany New York Atlanta Philadelphia Brussels San Diego San Francisco Denver Los Angeles Washington, DC



Tel: 404.527.4000 www.mckennalong.com

Remittance Address: P.O. Box 116573, Atlanta, GA 30368

Wire Transfer Instructions Bank Name: SunTrust Bank Bank Address: 25 Park Place, 26th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30303 ABA Number: 061000104 Swift Code/Bank Code: SNTRUS3A Account Name: McKenna Long & Aldridge LLP

ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGED TAX ID NO. 52-1237458

Record Press, Inc. Attn: Hugh Wilmot

229 West 36th Street, 8th Fl.

New York, , NY 10018

Invoice No. 741494 Client No.: 030620

Matter No.: 030620.00001 Invoice Date: February 7, 2011 \_\_\_\_\_\_

FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES RENDERED through January 31, 2011

RE: QUI TAM

	Hours	Billed	Bill
Name	Worked	Per Hour	Amount
W. O'Brien	8.10	530.00	4,293.00
J.W. Lomas Jr.	38.80	405.00	15,714.00
H. Kegan	0.70	85.00	59.50
	=======	========	
Total	47.60		20,066.50

TOTAL FEES: \$ 20,066.50

**EXPENSES:** 

COPY CHARGES 20.25 LITIGATION SUPPORT VENDORS 103.58 LONG DISTANCE TELEPHONE 28.28 54.86 **MEALS** 

TOTAL EXPENSES: 206.97

TOTAL THIS STATEMENT: \$ 20,273.47

Account Number: 8800918057

Albany New York Atlanta Philadelphia Brussels San Diego Denver San Francisco Los Angeles Washington, DC



Tel: 404.527.4000 www.mckennalong.com

Remittance Address: P.O. Box 116573, Atlanta, GA 30368

Wire Transfer Instructions Bank Name: SunTrust Bank Bank Address: 25 Park Place, 26th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30303 ABA Number: 061000104 Swift Code/Bank Code: SNTRUS3A Account Name: McKenna Long & Aldridge LLP

ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGED TAX ID NO. 52-1237458

Record Press, Inc. Attn: Hugh Wilmot

229 West 36th Street, 8th Fl.

New York, , NY 10018

Invoice No. 745900 Client No.: 030620

Matter No.: 030620.00001 Invoice Date: March 10, 2011 \_\_\_\_\_\_

FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES RENDERED through February 28, 2011

RE: QUI TAM

	Hours	Billed	Bill
Name	Worked	Per Hour	Amount
J.G. Horan	0.90	695.00	625.50
W. O'Brien	30.50	550.00	16,775.00
J.W. Lomas Jr.	84.40	450.00	37,980.00
V.T. Lam	45.00	250.00	11,250.00
=======================================	=======	=======	========
Total	160.80		66,630.50

TOTAL FEES: \$ 66,630.50

**EXPENSES:** 

COPY CHARGES	240.00
DELIVERY SERVICE/MESSENGER	200.80
DEPOSITION TRANSCRIPTS	391.00
LOCAL TRAVEL	39.00
LONG DISTANCE TELEPHONE	0.72
MEALS	28.42
PACER SEARCHES	2.88

TOTAL EXPENSES: 902.82

TOTAL THIS STATEMENT: \$ 67,533.32 Albany New York Atlanta Philadelphia Brussels San Diego San Francisco Denver Los Angeles Washington, DC



Tel: 404.527.4000 www.mckennalong.com

Remittance Address: P.O. Box 116573, Atlanta, GA 30368

Wire Transfer Instructions Bank Name: SunTrust Bank Bank Address: 25 Park Place, 26th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30303 ABA Number: 061000104 Swift Code/Bank Code: SNTRUS3A

> Account Name: McKenna Long & Aldridge LLP Account Number: 8800918057

ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGED TAX ID NO. 52-1237458

Record Press, Inc. Attn: Hugh Wilmot

229 West 36th Street, 8th Fl.

New York, , NY 10018

Invoice No. 749973 Client No.: 030620

Matter No.: 030620.00001 Invoice Date: April 11, 2011 \_\_\_\_\_\_

FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES RENDERED through March 31, 2011

RE: \*\*\*\* INTERNAL INVOICE ONLY \*\*\*\*

\*\*\*\* SEE DOC. NO. DC 50769866 \*\*\*\*\*

\* \* \* \* \* \* SUMMARY OF ACTIVITY \* \* \* \* \*

	Hours	Billed	Bill
Name	Worked	Per Hour	Amount
W. O'Brien	5.40	550.00	2,970.00
J.W. Lomas Jr.	9.60	450.00	4,320.00
=======================================	=======	=======	=========
Total	15.00		7,290.00

TOTAL FEES: 7,290.00

**EXPENSES:** 

DELIVERY SERVICE/MESSENGER 45.00 DEPOSITION TRANSCRIPTS 397.85 LEXIS SEARCHES 166.68 LOCAL TRAVEL 60.00 LONG DISTANCE TELEPHONE 3.61 MEALS 50.00 PACER SEARCHES 3.60 WESTLAW RESEARCH 2,037.62

TOTAL EXPENSES: 2,764.36

TOTAL THIS STATEMENT: \$ 10,054.36 McKenna Long & Aldridge LLP

Tel: 404.527.4000 www.mckennalong.com

Remittance Address: P.O. Box 116573, Atlanta, GA 30368 Wire Transfer Instructions
Bank Name: SunTrust Bank
Bank Address: 25 Park Place, 26th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30303
ABA Number: 061000104
Swift Code/Bank Code: SNTRUS3A
Account Name: McKenna Long & Aldridge LLP

Account Number: 8800918057

ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGED TAX ID NO. 52-1237458

Record Press, Inc. Attn: Hugh Wilmot

New York

Philadelphia

San Francisco

Washington, DC

San Diego

Albany

Atlanta

Brussels

Denver

Los Angeles

229 West 36th Street, 8th Fl.

New York, , NY 10018

Client No.: 030620 Invoice No. 754263

\_\_\_\_\_\_

FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES RENDERED through April 30, 2011

RE: QUI TAM

ount
0.00
5.00
====
5.00
) 5

TOTAL FEES: \$ 3,525.00

**EXPENSES:** 

PACER SEARCHES 4.80

TOTAL EXPENSES: \$ 4.80

TOTAL THIS STATEMENT: \$ 3,529.80

Account Number: 8800918057

 $\underset{\text{Attorneys at Law}}{McKenna} \ \underset{\text{Attorneys at Law}}{Long}$ 

Tel: 404.527.4000 www.mckennalong.com

Remittance Address: P.O. Box 116573, Atlanta, GA 30368 Wire Transfer Instructions
Bank Name: SunTrust Bank
Bank Address: 25 Park Place, 26th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30303
ABA Number: 061000104
Swift Code/Bank Code: SNTRUS3A
Account Name: McKenna Long & Aldridge LLP

ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGED TAX ID NO. 52-1237458

Record Press, Inc. Attn: Hugh Wilmot

New York

Philadelphia

San Diego

San Francisco

Washington, DC

Albany

Atlanta

Brussels

Denver

Los Angeles

229 West 36th Street, 8th Fl.

New York, , NY 10018

Client No.: 030620 Invoice No. 759992

\_\_\_\_\_\_

FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES RENDERED through May 31, 2011

RE: QUI TAM

Name	Hours Worked	Billed Per Hour		Bill Amount
J.W. Lomas Jr.	0.20	450.00 ======	====:	90.00
TOTAL FEES:			\$	90.00
EXPENSES:				
DELIVERY SERVICE/MESSEN	GER	15.00		
TOTAL EXPENSES:			\$	15.00
TOTAL THIS STAT	'EMENT:		\$	105.00

Wire Transfer Instructions

McKenna Long Philadelphia Attorneys at Law

Tel: 404.527.4000 www.mckennalong.com

Bank Name: SunTrust Bank Bank Address: 25 Park Place, 26th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30303 ABA Number: 061000104 Swift Code/Bank Code: SNTRUS3A Account Name: McKenna Long & Aldridge LLP Account Number: 8800918057

Remittance Address: P.O. Box 116573, Atlanta, GA 30368

> ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGED TAX ID NO. 52-1237458

Filed: 01/07/2015

Record Press, Inc. Attn: Hugh Wilmot

New York

San Diego

San Francisco

Washington, DC

Albany

Atlanta

Brussels

Denver

Los Angeles

229 West 36th Street, 8th Fl.

New York, , NY 10018

Client No.: 030620 Invoice No. 763838

Matter No.: 030620.00001 Invoice Date: July 13, 2011

\_\_\_\_\_\_

FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES RENDERED through June 30, 2011

RE: QUI TAM

\* \* \* \* SUMMARY OF ACTIVITY \* \* \* \*

Name	Hours Worked	Billed Per Hour		Bill Amount
H. Kegan	0.30	90.00		27.00
Total	0.30	=======	====	27.00
TOTAL FEES:			\$	27.00
TOTAL THIS STA	TEMENT:		\$	27.00

USCA Case #14-7077 Document #1530697 Filed: 01/07/2015 Page 280 of 605

# **Exhibit D**

## USCA Case #14-7077

Document #1530697

Filed: 01/07/2015

Page 281 of 605

Albany Atlanta

Brussels Denver

Los Angeles

McKenna Long & Aldridge Attorneys at Law

1900 K Street, NW • Washington, DC 20006-1108 Tel: 202.496.7500 • Fax: 202.496.7756 www.mckennalong.com New York Philadelphia Sacramento San Diego San Francisco Washington, D.C.

WILLIAM T. O'BRIEN (202) 496-7107 EMAIL ADDRESS wobrien@mckennalong.com

October 15, 2010

#### Via Email

Mr. Hugh Wilmot 229 W. 36th Street, 8th FL New York, NY 10018

Re:

Brian Burke v. Record Press Inc.

Dear Hugh:

Enclosed please find an invoice from Case Driven in the amount of \$641.15 for processing and preparing Record Press' documents for production to Mr. Burke.

Best regards,

William T. O'Brien

WTO/sv

Enclosure

cc:

Malcolm I. Lewin, Esq.

Jeffrey P. Englander, Esq.

DC:50730740.1



McKenna Long & Aldridge LLP

Bill To:

John W. Lomas Jr.

1900 K Street, NW

Washington, D.C. 20006

1915 Eye Street, N.W. Suite 600 Washington, D.C. 20006 202-742-5286

# **Invoice**

Federal Tax I.D	Invoice Date:	Invoice #:
20-4826769	5/25/2010	2004_685

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Quantity	Item	Description		Unit Price	Amount	
2,708 2,708	Electronic Branding Single File Forma	Light Litigation Scar Optical Character Re Electronic Endorsing Blowback-Single Fil CD Delivery Non Se Client Matter: 3062 Sales Tax	g- Per RH le Format earchable PDF's	al Pricing	0.06 0.025 0.01 0.06 10.00	162.4 67.7 27.0 327.6 20.0
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# **Exhibit E**

USCA Case #14-7077 Document #1530697 Filed: 01/07/2015 Page 284 of 605

From: Lomas, John

Sent: Thursday, June 24, 2010 5:05 PM

**To:** 'Tyler King' **Cc:** O'Brien, William

Subject: Burke v. Record Press

Tyler,

Please see the attached letter of this date from Will with attachments.

Also, your binder was found at offices. You can pick it up at our reception desk.

Regards,

John





June 24 2010 Ltr US ex rel Cooper US ex rel Ubl v IIF to Tyler King... v Bernard Hod... Data Solut...

John W. Lomas, Jr. I Associate McKenna Long & Aldridge LLP

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Tel: 202.496.7183 | Fax: 202.496.7756 | ilomas@mckennalong.com

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WILLIAM T. O'BRIEN (202) 496-7107 EMAIL ADDRESS wobrien@mckennalong.com

June 24, 2010

#### BY EMAIL

Tyler Jay King, Esq. 1420 N Street NW Suite 706 Washington, DC 20005 tyler@tylerkinglaw.com

Re: Brian Burke v. Record Press, Inc. - Case No. 1:08-CV-00364 (EGS)

Dear Tyler:

Per our discussions, please find attached two recent United States District Court decisions, one from the District of Columbia and one from the Eastern District of Virginia, awarding False Claim Act defendants their attorneys' fees and expenses pursuant to 31 U.S.C. § 3730(d)(4) under circumstances that exist in this case.

Mr. Burke continues to pursue this frivolous and vexatious case, and to publicly accuse Record Press of fraud despite all the direct evidence to the contrary, evidence repeatedly provided to Mr. Burke by the Government and by Record Press since the inception of this case more than two years ago. Indeed, the Government confirmed to Mr. Burke, in a September 2009 meeting with Mr. Burke's counsel, that Record Press had properly billed the Government Printing Office throughout their long contracting relationship. All of the evidence taken during discovery further confirmed the frivolousness of Mr. Burke's lawsuit.

Please be advised that we fully intend to move for an award of Record Press's attorneys' fees and expenses pursuant to 31 U.S.C. § 3730(d)(4). We also reserve the right to seek any other relief available to Record Press.



Page 1

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C

United States District Court, District of Columbia. UNITED STATES of America, ex rel. J. COOPER & ASSOCIATES, INC., Plaintiff,

BERNARD HODES GROUP, INC., Cass Communications, Inc., and J. Walter Thompson Co., Defendants.

Civ.A. No. 03-2436 (RMU).

March 23, 2006.

Background: Qui tam plaintiff brought action against government contractors, alleging that they misrepresented themselves as small or disadvantaged businesses in violation of False Claims Act (FCA) to obtain orders from Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) for advertising and public relations services. Contractors moved to dismiss and for award of attorney fees and expenses.

**Holdings:** The District Court, Urbina, J., held that:

- (1) media reports about contractors' size and scope triggered FCA provision depriving district courts of jurisdiction to hear FCA actions based upon public disclosure of allegations or transactions;
- (2) plaintiff did not come within original source exception to FCA's jurisdictional bar against qui tam actions based on public disclosures; and
- (3) contractors were entitled, as prevailing defendants, to award of attorney fees and expenses under FCA.

Motion granted.

West Headnotes

#### [1] United States 393 €—122

393 United States

393VIII Claims Against United States 393k120 Making or Presentation of False Claims and Other Offenses Relating to Claims

393k122 k. Penalties and Actions Therefor. Most Cited Cases

"Qui tam action" allows private parties to initiate suit to enforce the laws in the government's stead and awards victorious plaintiffs part of the recovery as bounty.

# [2] Federal Courts 170B 30

170B Federal Courts

170BI Jurisdiction and Powers in General 170BI(A) In General

170Bk29 Objections to Jurisdiction, Determination and Waiver

170Bk30 k. Power and Duty of Court. Most Cited Cases

Courts should consider challenges based on subject matter jurisdiction before motions to dismiss for failure to state claim. Fed.Rules Civ.Proc.Rule 12(b)(1, 6), 28 U.S.C.A.

# [3] Federal Courts 170B € 5

170B Federal Courts

170BI Jurisdiction and Powers in General

170BI(A) In General

170Bk3 Jurisdiction in General; Nature and

Source

170Bk5 k. Limited Jurisdiction; Dependent on Constitution or Statutes. Most Cited Cases

### Federal Courts 170B 34

170B Federal Courts

170BI Jurisdiction and Powers in General

170BI(A) In General

170Bk29 Objections to Jurisdiction, Determination and Waiver

170Bk34 k. Presumptions and Burden

of Proof. Most Cited Cases Federal courts are courts of limited jurisdiction, and

the law presumes that a cause lies outside this limited jurisdiction.

## [4] Federal Courts 170B =31

170B Federal Courts

170BI Jurisdiction and Powers in General

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170BI(A) In General

170Bk29 Objections to Jurisdiction, Determination and Waiver

170Bk31 k. Waiver or Consent. Most

#### Cited Cases

Because subject matter jurisdiction is an Article III requirement as well as a statutory requirement, no action of the parties can confer subject matter jurisdiction upon a federal court. U.S.C.A. Const. Art. 3, § 2, cl. 1.

#### [5] Federal Courts 170B €=34

170B Federal Courts

170BI Jurisdiction and Powers in General

170BI(A) In General

170Bk29 Objections to Jurisdiction, Determination and Waiver

170Bk34 k. Presumptions and Burden of Proof. Most Cited Cases

On a motion to dismiss for lack of subject matter jurisdiction, plaintiff bears the burden of establishing that the court has subject matter jurisdiction. Fed.Rules Civ.Proc.Rule 12(b)(1), 28 U.S.C.A.

## [6] Federal Courts 170B 33

170B Federal Courts

**170BI** Jurisdiction and Powers in General

170BI(A) In General

170Bk29 Objections to Jurisdiction, De-

termination and Waiver

170Bk33 k. Affidavits and Evidence in

General. Most Cited Cases

Court may dismiss a complaint for lack of subject matter jurisdiction only if it appears beyond doubt that plaintiff can prove no set of facts in support of his claim which would entitle him to relief. Fed.Rules Civ.Proc.Rule 12(b)(1), 28 U.S.C.A.

#### [7] Federal Courts 170B € 33

**170B** Federal Courts

170BI Jurisdiction and Powers in General

170BI(A) In General

170Bk29 Objections to Jurisdiction, Determination and Waiver

170Bk33 k. Affidavits and Evidence in

General. Most Cited Cases

Inasmuch as subject matter jurisdiction focuses on

court's power to hear claim, court must give plaintiff's factual allegations closer scrutiny when resolving motion to dismiss for lack of subject matter jurisdiction than would be required for motion to dismiss for failure to state a claim. Fed.Rules Civ.Proc.Rule 12(b)(1, 6), 28 U.S.C.A.

#### [8] Federal Courts 170B =33

170B Federal Courts

170BI Jurisdiction and Powers in General

170BI(A) In General

170Bk29 Objections to Jurisdiction, Determination and Waiver

170Bk33 k. Affidavits and Evidence in

General. Most Cited Cases

Court deciding motion to dismiss for lack of subject matter jurisdiction is not limited to the allegations contained in the complaint, and may consider materials outside the pleadings. Fed.Rules Civ.Proc.Rule 12(b)(1), 28 U.S.C.A.

# [9] United States 393 €-120.1

393 United States

393VIII Claims Against United States

393k120 Making or Presentation of False Claims and Other Offenses Relating to Claims

393k120.1 k. In General. Most Cited Cases False Claims Act (FCA) attaches liability to claim for payment, not to underlying activity. 31 U.S.C.A. § 3729.

#### [10] United States 393 = 122

393 United States

393VIII Claims Against United States

393k120 Making or Presentation of False Claims and Other Offenses Relating to Claims

393k122 k. Penalties and Actions Therefor.

Most Cited Cases

In action under False Claims Act (FCA), plaintiff has the burden of establishing jurisdiction. 31 U.S.C.A. § 3729 et seq.

#### [11] United States 393 = 122

393 United States

393VIII Claims Against United States

393k120 Making or Presentation of False

422 F.Supp.2d 225 (Cite as: 422 F.Supp.2d 225)

Claims and Other Offenses Relating to Claims

393k122 k. Penalties and Actions Therefor. Most Cited Cases

Court has no duty to accept factual allegations as true, especially sweeping, conclusory statements, in deciding case under False Claims Act (FCA). 31 <u>U.S.C.A. § 3729</u> et seq.

#### [12] United States 393 122

393 United States

393VIII Claims Against United States

393k120 Making or Presentation of False Claims and Other Offenses Relating to Claims

393k122 k. Penalties and Actions Therefor. **Most Cited Cases** 

Statement in report by Department of Justice's Office of the Inspector General (OIG) which indicated that government contractors which were alleged to have received "small business" status, even though they did not meet requirements of small business, had verified their small business status verbally did not, standing alone, raise specter of foul play, and therefore existence of report in the public domain did not divest district court of subject matter jurisdiction over qui tam action under False Claims Act (FCA), alleging that government contractors had misrepresented themselves as small or disadvantaged businesses to obtain orders from Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) for advertising and public relations services. 31 U.S.C.A. § 3729 et seq.

# [13] United States 393 122

393 United States

393VIII Claims Against United States

393k120 Making or Presentation of False Claims and Other Offenses Relating to Claims

393k122 k. Penalties and Actions Therefor.

Most Cited Cases

Qui tam action under False Claims Act (FCA) cannot proceed when all the material elements of the fraudulent transaction are already in the public domain, even if plaintiff comes forward with additional evidence incriminating defendant; however, when only one element of the fraudulent transaction is in the public domain, qui tam plaintiff may mount a case by coming forward with either the additional elements necessary to state a case of fraud or allegations of fraud itself. 31 U.S.C.A. § 3729 et seq.

# [14] United States 393 € 122

393 United States

393VIII Claims Against United States

393k120 Making or Presentation of False Claims and Other Offenses Relating to Claims

393k122 k. Penalties and Actions Therefor. Most Cited Cases

Media reports that documented size and scope of government contractors before qui tam plaintiff commenced action under False Claims Act (FCA) alleging that contractors had misrepresented themselves as small or disadvantaged businesses to obtain orders from Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) for advertising and public relations services triggered FCA provision depriving district courts of jurisdiction to hear FCA actions based upon publicly disclosed allegations or transactions, inasmuch as plaintiff's assertion that contractors were large businesses not entitled to small business preferences merely repeated what the public already knew, and information in media reports, combined with information in report by Department of Justice's Office of the Inspector General (OIG) about contractors' small business status, was sufficient to alert government to alleged fraud. 31 U.S.C.A. § 3730(e).

#### [15] United States 393 —122

393 United States

393VIII Claims Against United States

393k120 Making or Presentation of False Claims and Other Offenses Relating to Claims

393k122 k. Penalties and Actions Therefor.

Most Cited Cases

Jurisdictional bar of False Claims Act (FCA) precludes actions by individuals who base any part of their allegations on publicly disclosed information. 31 U.S.C.A. § 3730(e).

#### [16] United States 393 €—122

393 United States

393VIII Claims Against United States

393k120 Making or Presentation of False Claims and Other Offenses Relating to Claims

393k122 k. Penalties and Actions Therefor.

Most Cited Cases

Oui tam plaintiff failed to show that it had direct and independent knowledge of alleged misrepresentations made by government contractors to obtain small

business contracts despite their ineligibility, so as to come within original source exception to jurisdictional bar, under False Claims Act (FCA), against qui tam actions based on publicly disclosed information, inasmuch as vague allegations of fraud included in plaintiff's letter to Department of Justice's Office of the Inspector General (OIG) did not demonstrate that plaintiff had any knowledge of alleged wrongdoing by particular contractors, nor did letter show that any independent knowledge that plaintiff had of alleged fraud was direct. 31 U.S.C.A. § 3730(e)(4)(B).

# [17] United States 393 € 122

393 United States

393VIII Claims Against United States 393k120 Making or Presentation of False Claims and Other Offenses Relating to Claims

393k122 k. Penalties and Actions Therefor. Most Cited Cases

Provision of False Claims Act (FCA) granting district court jurisdiction to hear qui tam action that is based on public disclosure of allegations or transactions if plaintiff is original source of information on which allegations are based requires qui tam plaintiff to possess direct and independent knowledge of the information underlying the allegation, rather than direct and independent knowledge of the transaction itself. 31 U.S.C.A. § 3730(e)(4)(B).

#### [18] United States 393 € 122

393 United States

393VIII Claims Against United States

393k120 Making or Presentation of False Claims and Other Offenses Relating to Claims

393k122 k. Penalties and Actions Therefor. Most Cited Cases

Under provision of False Claims Act (FCA) granting district court jurisdiction to hear qui tam action based on public disclosure of allegations or transactions if plaintiff is original source of information on which allegations are based, plaintiff can surmount FCA's jurisdictional bar on actions based on public disclosures by demonstrating direct and independent knowledge of any essential element of underlying fraud transaction. 31 U.S.C.A. § 3730(e)(4)(B).

# [19] United States 393 € 122

393 United States

393VIII Claims Against United States

Filed: 01/07/2015

393k120 Making or Presentation of False Claims and Other Offenses Relating to Claims

393k122 k. Penalties and Actions Therefor. **Most Cited Cases** 

Even if letters sent by qui tam plaintiff to Small Business Administration (SBA) and Department of Justice's Office of the Inspector General (OIG) prompted OIG's investigation into whether government contractors had misrepresented themselves as small or disadvantaged businesses to obtain contracts with Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS), that fact alone did not establish that plaintiff came within original source exception to jurisdictional bar, under False Claims Act (FCA), against qui tam actions based on public disclosures, given that OIG uncovered, through its investigation, identities of alleged perpetrators and exact circumstances of their allegedly fraudulent acts, such that plaintiff was not original source of that information. 31 U.S.C.A. § 3730(e)(4)(B).

# [20] Federal Civil Procedure 170A 2769

170A Federal Civil Procedure

170AXX Sanctions

170AXX(B) Grounds for Imposition

170Ak2767 Unwarranted, Groundless or Frivolous Papers or Claims

170Ak2769 k. Reasonableness or Bad Faith in General; Objective or Subjective Standard. Most Cited Cases

Before imposing sanctions under statute allowing court to assess attorney fees against attorney who frustrates the progress of judicial proceedings, court must evaluate whether attorney's conduct has been at least reckless. 28 U.S.C.A. § 1927.

# [21] Federal Civil Procedure 170A = 2829

170A Federal Civil Procedure

170AXX Sanctions

170AXX(E) Proceedings

170Ak2829 k. Evidence. Most Cited Cases

Party moving for sanctions and fees under statute allowing court to assess attorney fees against attorney who frustrates the progress of judicial proceedings bears the burden of showing that opposing counsel acted recklessly. 28 U.S.C.A. § 1927.

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(Cite as: 422 F.Supp.2d 225)

# [22] Federal Civil Procedure 170A 2771(2)

170A Federal Civil Procedure

170AXX Sanctions

170AXX(B) Grounds for Imposition

170Ak2767 Unwarranted, Groundless or Frivolous Papers or Claims

170Ak2771 Complaints, Counterclaims and Petitions

170Ak2771(2) k. Particular Types of Cases. Most Cited Cases

Allegations that qui tam plaintiff's claim under False Claims Act (FCA) was frivolous and vexatious did not support sanctions under statute allowing court to assess attorney fees against attorney who frustrated the progress of judicial proceedings, given absence of allegations that attorney acted recklessly. 28 U.S.C.A. § 1927.

# [23] United States 393 —122

393 United States

393VIII Claims Against United States

393k120 Making or Presentation of False Claims and Other Offenses Relating to Claims

393k122 k. Penalties and Actions Therefor. Most Cited Cases

In deciding whether to award attorney fees and expenses to prevailing defendant under False Claims Act (FCA), court must determine whether plaintiff's suit falls within any of the three enumerated categories. 31 U.S.C.A. § 3730(d)(4).

# [24] United States 393 € 122

393 United States

393VIII Claims Against United States

393k120 Making or Presentation of False Claims and Other Offenses Relating to Claims

393k122 k. Penalties and Actions Therefor. Most Cited Cases

In applying provision of False Claims Act (FCA) allowing court to award reasonable attorney fees and expenses to prevailing defendant in qualifying case, it is important that court resist the understandable temptation to engage in post hoc reasoning by concluding that, because plaintiff did not ultimately prevail, his action must have been unreasonable or without foundation. 31 U.S.C.A. § 3730(d)(4).

## [25] United States 393 €—122

393 United States

393VIII Claims Against United States

393k120 Making or Presentation of False Claims and Other Offenses Relating to Claims

393k122 k. Penalties and Actions Therefor. Most Cited Cases

Court can only base an award of attorney fees and expenses to prevailing defendant in action under False Claims Act (FCA) upon a finding that plaintiff's action was frivolous, unreasonable, or without foundation. 31 U.S.C.A. § 3730(d)(4).

# [26] United States 393 € 122

393 United States

393VIII Claims Against United States

393k120 Making or Presentation of False Claims and Other Offenses Relating to Claims

393k122 k. Penalties and Actions Therefor. Most Cited Cases

District court should review the entire course of the litigation in determining whether action under False Claims Act (FCA) was frivolous, unreasonable, or without foundation and warrants award of attorney fees and expenses to prevailing defendant. 31 U.S.C.A. § 3730(d)(4).

## [27] United States 393 € 122

393 United States

393VIII Claims Against United States

393k120 Making or Presentation of False Claims and Other Offenses Relating to Claims

393k122 k. Penalties and Actions Therefor.

Most Cited Cases

Claim is "frivolous," within meaning of provision of False Claims Act (FCA) authorizing award of attorney fees and costs to prevailing defendant, if it is utterly lacking in legal merit and evidentiary support. 31 U.S.C.A. § 3730(d)(4).

# [28] United States 393 € 122

393 United States

393VIII Claims Against United States

393k120 Making or Presentation of False Claims and Other Offenses Relating to Claims

393k122 k. Penalties and Actions Therefor.

## Most Cited Cases

In the context of statute authorizing award of attorney fees and costs to prevailing defendant in action under False Claims Act (FCA), evidence of vexatiousness or an intent to harass on plaintiff's part includes, but is not limited to, actions that deliberately delay the proceedings, attempts to relitigate a previously decided claim against same defendant, the raising of new allegations in an effort to circumvent the arguments in defendant's motion to dismiss, and the inclusion of counts for which the available evidence defeats any inference of a false claim. 31 U.S.C.A. § 3730(d)(4).

# [29] United States 393 —122

393 United States

393VIII Claims Against United States

393k120 Making or Presentation of False Claims and Other Offenses Relating to Claims

393k122 k. Penalties and Actions Therefor. Most Cited Cases

Government contractors were prevailing parties for purposes of attorney fee award under False Claims Act (FCA), even though qui tam action against them was dismissed for lack of subject matter jurisdiction. inasmuch as the evidence showed that federal agency was aware that contractors were not small or disadvantaged businesses when it offered them disputed contracts, negating claims that contractors received contracts as a result of making false representations about the size and scope of their businesses. 31 U.S.C.A. § 3730(d)(4).

### [30] United States 393 € 122

393 United States

393VIII Claims Against United States

393k120 Making or Presentation of False Claims and Other Offenses Relating to Claims

393k122 k. Penalties and Actions Therefor.

Most Cited Cases

Claim is "frivolous" and "vexatious" within meaning of provision of False Claims Act (FCA) authorizing award of attorney fees and costs to prevailing defendant if the government's awareness of the circumstances constituting the alleged transgression makes any legal claim of fraud untenable. 31 U.S.C.A. § 3730(d)(4).

# [31] United States 393 € 122

393 United States

393VIII Claims Against United States

393k120 Making or Presentation of False Claims and Other Offenses Relating to Claims

393k122 k. Penalties and Actions Therefor. Most Cited Cases

Qui tam plaintiff filed "frivolous" and "vexatious" lawsuit when it brought action against government contractors under False Claims Act (FCA) based on allegations that they obtained government contracts by misrepresenting themselves as small or disadvantaged businesses, despite knowing that government agency was aware of contractors' true business status at the time contracts were issued, and therefore contractors were entitled, as prevailing defendants, to award of attorney fees and expenses under FCA. 31 U.S.C.A. § 3730(d)(4).

\*229 Cyrus E. Phillips, IV, Washington, DC, for Plaintiff.

\*230 Kenneth Lee Blalack, II, O'Melveny & Myers LLP, Washington, DC, for Defendants.

Brian J. Sonfield, Export-Import Bank of the United States Office of the General Counsel, Washington, DC, for Movant.

# **MEMORANDUM OPINION**

URBINA, District Judge.

### GRANTING THE DEFENDANTS' MOTION TO DISMISS AND FOR ATTORNEYS' FEES AND **EXPENSES**

#### I. INTRODUCTION

This case comes before the court on the defendants' motion to dismiss and for attorneys' fees and expenses. The plaintiff alleges that the defendants misrepresented themselves as small or disadvantaged businesses in violation of the False Claims Act ("FCA"), <u>31 U.S.C. §§ 3729</u> et seq., to obtain orders from the Immigration and Naturalization Service ("INS") for advertising and public relations services. Because the plaintiff's claims are based on publicly disclosed information, of which the plaintiff is not the original source, the court grants the defendants' motion to dismiss for lack of subject-matter jurisdiction.

In addition, because the plaintiff's lawsuit qualifies as frivolous and vexatious, the court awards the defendants attorneys' fees and expenses pursuant to 31 U.S.C. § 3730(d)(4).

#### II. BACKGROUND

#### A. Factual Background

Plaintiff J. Cooper and Associates, Inc. is a small, disadvantaged vendor eligible to participate in the Small Business Administration's ("SBA") Section 8(a) program. FNI Am. Compl. ¶ 3. In July 1995, the INS awarded the plaintiff a contract under the Section 8(a) program to perform advertising and public relations services to support the INS's initiative to significantly increase the size of its workforce. Id. ¶ 8; Defs.' Mot. at 4. In November 1995, however, the INS began issuing orders to other vendors to fulfill its advertising needs. Defs.' Mot. at 5-6. Specifically, the INS placed advertising orders with defendants Bernard Hodes Group, Inc. ("Hodes") and Cass Communications, Inc. ("Cass") in November 1995, and with defendant J. Walter Thompson Co. ("JWT") in February 1996. FN2 Id. at 7.

FN1. Under the Small Business Administration's ("SBA") Section 8(a) program, government agencies can award contracts to small businesses. 15 U.S.C. § 637(a)(1)(B). The small business then enters into a tripartite contract with the contracting agency and the SBA and performs the specified work as a subcontractor to the SBA. *Id*.

FN2. The INS also issued orders to another advertising agency, Abramson, Ehrlich, and Manes, which is not a party to this lawsuit. Am. Compl. ¶ 13; Am. Compl., Attach. 2 at 6547.

On January 7, 1997, after the plaintiff's contract terminated, the plaintiff sent a letter to the United States Department of Justice's Office of the Inspector General ("OIG") stating that "several large white firms misrepresented themselves as being 'small and disadvantaged' in order to obtain contracts with the [INS]," and that, "this fraud took place with the INS' [sic.] contract and program people's knowledge." FN3 Defs.' Mot. at 6; Am. Compl. ¶ 9; Pl.'s Opp'n, Attach. 1 ("Cooper Decl."), Ex. L.

FN3. The plaintiff sent a similar letter to the SBA on the same date. Defs.' Mot. at 6; Am. Compl. ¶ 9; Pl.'s Opp'n, Attach. 1 ("Cooper Decl."), Ex. M. The SBA informed the plaintiff by mail that it had referred the plaintiff's letter to the Department of Justice, Office of the Inspector General ("OIG") for review. Am. Compl. ¶ 9.

Filed: 01/07/2015

\*231 On August 7, 1997, the OIG issued a report ("the OIG Report") of an investigation regarding allegations that the INS "commingled advertising funds that were earmarked for a specific 8(a) or small and disadvantaged advertising contract." Am. Compl. ¶ 12; Am. Compl., Attach. 2 at 6538; Defs.' Mot. at 10. Attached to the OIG Report was a Memorandum of Investigation ("MOI") summarizing a July 15, 1997 interview with an INS employee discussing "allegations that certain businesses had received 'small business' status, when these companies did not meet the requirements as 'small businesses.' " Defs.' Mot. at 10-11 (citing Am. Compl., Attach. 2 at 6546). During the interview, the INS employee stated that each of the defendant vendors "verified their 'small business' status verbally" when questioned by the INS. Am. Compl., Attach. 2 at 6547.

On December 8, 1997, the plaintiff filed suit in the United States Court of Federal Claims against the INS, alleging that the SBA and the INS violated their statutory and contractual obligations by discontinuing the contract with the plaintiff and issuing advertising orders related to the INS's hiring initiative to other businesses. Am. Compl. ¶ 10; Defs.' Mot. at 8. The Court of Federal Claims dismissed the suit without prejudice to allow the plaintiff to exhaust administrative remedies. J. Cooper & Assocs., Inc. v. United States, 47 Fed.Cl. 280 (2000). On May 31, 2000, the plaintiff filed another complaint against the INS for breach of contract and breach of the implied covenant of good faith and fair dealing. Am. Compl. ¶ 10. The Court of Federal Claims dismissed the plaintiff's complaint with prejudice on July 12, 2002. J. Cooper & Assocs., Inc. v. United States, 53 Fed.Cl. 8 (2002); Defs.' Mot. at 9. The plaintiff appealed to the Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit, which affirmed the lower court's decision. J. Cooper & Assocs., Inc. v. United States, 65 Fed.Appx. 731 (2003).

#### **B. Procedural Background**

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422 F.Supp.2d 225 (Cite as: 422 F.Supp.2d 225)

[1] Before ruling on the pending motion, the court takes a step back to review the somewhat tangled procedural posture of this case. On November 25, 2003, the plaintiff filed this *qui tam*<sup>FN4</sup> lawsuit on behalf of the United States against the defendants. Compl ¶¶ 1, 2. On April 18, 2005, the defendants filed a motion to dismiss the complaint and for attorneys' fees, costs, and expenses. Stipulation and Order Dismissing Pl.'s Unjust Enrichment Claim and Defining Papers to be Considered on Defs.' Mot. to Dismiss the Am. Compl. ("Stipulation") at 1. On May 12, 2005, the plaintiff filed a brief and affidavit in opposition to the defendants' motion to dismiss, and subsequently filed an amended complaint which added, inter alia, a claim for unjust enrichment. Id. at 1-2. As a result of this filing, confusion arose among the parties regarding which motions and corresponding documents remained at issue. To clarify for the court the relevant documents in resolving the defendants' motion to dismiss the amended complaint, the parties stipulated and agreed that: (1) the unjust enrichment count is dismissed with prejudice, (2) the defendants' motion to dismiss the original complaint is withdrawn, (3) the only motion before the court is the defendants' motion to dismiss the amended complaint. FN5 \*232 *Id.* at 2-3. The court now turns to the defendants' motion.

FN4. A qui tam action "allow[s] private parties to initiate suit to enforce the laws in the government's stead and award[s] victorious plaintiffs part of the recovery as bounty."

United States ex rel. Springfield Terminal
Ry. Co. v. Quinn, 14 F.3d 645, 647 n. 1
(D.C.Cir.1994).

FN5. The documents in docket entry number 20 are deemed to comprise the defendants' motion to dismiss the amended complaint. Stipulation and Order Dismissing Pl.'s Unjust Enrichment Claim and Defining Papers to be Considered on Defs.' Mot. to Dismiss the Am. Compl. ("Stipulation") at 3. The documents in docket entry number 18 comprise the plaintiff's papers in opposition to the defendants' motion to dismiss. *Id.* Finally, the defendants' reply to the plaintiff's opposition is docket entry number 23. *Id.* 

#### III. ANALYSIS

[2] The defendants move to dismiss the plaintiff's amended complaint under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 12(b)(1) or, in the alternative, Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 12(b)(6). Defs.' Mot. at 1. Courts should consider Rule 12(b)(1) jurisdictional challenges before Rule 12(b)(6) challenges. United States ex rel. Settlemire v. Dist. of Columbia, 198 F.3d 913, 920 (D.C.Cir.1999) (citing United States ex rel. Kreindler & Kreindler v. United Techs. Corp., 985 F.2d 1148, 1155-56 (2d Cir.1993)). Accordingly, the court addresses the defendants' Rule 12(b)(1) challenge first

#### A. Legal Standards

# 1. Legal Standard for a Motion to Dismiss Pursuant to Rule 12(b)(1)

[3] Federal courts are courts of limited jurisdiction and the law presumes that "a cause lies outside this limited jurisdiction." *Kokkonen v. Guardian Life Ins. Co. of Am.*, 511 U.S. 375, 377, 114 S.Ct. 1673, 128 L.Ed.2d 391 (1994); *St. Paul Mercury Indem. Co. v. Red Cab Co.*, 303 U.S. 283, 288-89, 58 S.Ct. 586, 82 L.Ed. 845 (1938); *see also Gen. Motors Corp. v. Envtl. Prot. Agency*, 363 F.3d 442, 448 (D.C.Cir.2004) (noting that "[a]s a court of limited jurisdiction, we being, and end, with an examination of our jurisdiction").

[4][5][6] Because "subject-matter jurisdiction is an 'Art. III as well as a statutory requirement[,] no action of the parties can confer subject-matter jurisdiction upon a federal court." Akinseye v. Dist. of Columbia, 339 F.3d 970, 971 (D.C.Cir.2003) (quoting Ins. Corp. of Ireland, Ltd. v. Compagnie des Bauxites de Guinee, 456 U.S. 694, 702, 102 S.Ct. 2099, 72 L.Ed.2d 492 (1982)). On a motion to dismiss for lack of subject-matter jurisdiction pursuant to Rule 12(b)(1), the plaintiff bears the burden of establishing that the court has subject-matter jurisdiction. *Lujan v*. Defenders of Wildlife, 504 U.S. 555, 561, 112 S.Ct. 2130, 119 L.Ed.2d 351 (1992). The court may dismiss a complaint for lack of subject-matter jurisdiction only if "it appears beyond doubt that the plaintiff can prove no set of facts in support of his claim which would entitle him to relief." Empagran S.A. v. F. Hoffman-LaRoche, Ltd., 315 F.3d 338, 343 (D.C.Cir.2003) (quoting Conley v. Gibson, 355 U.S. 41, 45-46, 78 S.Ct. 99, 2 L.Ed.2d 80 (1957)).

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[7][8] Because subject-matter jurisdiction focuses on the court's power to hear the claim, however, the court must give the plaintiff's factual allegations closer scrutiny when resolving a Rule 12(b)(1) motion than would be required for a Rule 12(b)(6) motion for failure to state a claim. Macharia v. United States, 334 F.3d 61, 64, 69 (D.C.Cir.2003); Grand Lodge of Fraternal Order of Police v. Ashcroft, 185 F.Supp.2d 9, 13 (D.D.C.2001). Moreover, the court is not limited to the allegations contained in the complaint. Hohri v. United States, 782 F.2d 227, 241 (D.C.Cir.1986), vacated on other grounds, 482 U.S. 64, 107 S.Ct. 2246, 96 L.Ed.2d 51 (1987). Instead, to determine whether it has jurisdiction over the claim, the court may consider materials outside the pleadings. United States ex rel. Herbert v. Nat'l Acad. of Scis., 974 F.2d 192, 197 (D.C.Cir.1992).

#### \*233 2. Legal Standard for the False Claims Act

[9] The FCA imposes liability for civil penalties and treble damages on anyone who submits or causes false claims to be submitted to the federal government. 31 U.S.C. § 3729. The FCA defines "claim" to include a request for payment made to a contractor, grantee, or other recipient if the federal government provides any portion of the money or property that is requested or demanded, or if the federal government will reimburse such contractor, grantee, or other recipient for any portion of the money or property that is requested or demanded. 31 U.S.C. § 3729(c). Further, the statute proscribes only false claims, that is, actual demands for money or property, and false records or statements used to induce such claims. 31 U.S.C. § 3729(a)(2). The FCA attaches liability to the claim for payment, not to the underlying activity. United States ex rel. Totten v. Bombardier Corp., 286 F.3d 542, 551 (D.C.Cir.2002).

In a *qui tam* lawsuit brought under the FCA, private persons acting on behalf of the government may sue those who defraud the government and may share in any proceeds ultimately recovered. *United States ex rel. Springfield Terminal Ry. Co. v. Quinn,* 14 F.3d 645, 647 (D.C.Cir.1994). *Qui tam* provisions thus create incentives to supplement government enforcement by exposing fraud of which the government was previously unaware. *Id.* at 649; *United States ex rel. Findley v. F.P.C.-Boron Employees' Club,* 105 F.3d 675, 678 (D.C.Cir.1997).

The FCA includes a jurisdictional provision barring certain types of suits, including *qui tam* suits that are "based upon the public disclosure of allegations or transactions in a criminal, civil, or administrative hearing, in a congressional, administrative, or Government Accounting Office report, hearing, audit, or investigation, or from the news" FN6 31 U.S.C. § 3730(e); *see also Springfield*, 14 F.3d at 651. A court, however, has jurisdiction to hear a suit based on the public disclosure of allegations or transactions if the plaintiff is the "original source" of the information, that is, if the plaintiff "has direct and independent knowledge of the information on which the allegations are based." 31 U.S.C. § 3730(e)(4)(B); *see also Springfield*, 14 F.3d at 651; *Wang v. FMC Corp.*, 975 F.2d 1412, 1416 (9th Cir.1992).

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FN6. Congress included the public disclosure exemption in the 1986 amendments to the FCA in order "to ensure that *qui tam* actions would not be brought by 'concerned' citizens combing courthouse and agency records." *United States ex rel. Herbert v. Nat'l Acad. of Scis*, 1992 WL 247587, at \*4, 1992 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 14063, at \*11 (D.D.C. Sept. 15, 1992).

[10][11] Under the FCA, the plaintiff has the burden of establishing jurisdiction. United States ex rel. Herbert v. Nat'l Acad. of Scis., 1992 WL 247587, at \*3-4, 1992 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 14063, at \*9 (D.D.C. Sept. 15, 1992) (citing Moir v. Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Auth., 895 F.2d 266, 269 (6th Cir.1990)), aff'd, 974 F.2d 192 (D.C.Cir.1992). In addition, the court has no duty to accept factual allegations as true, especially sweeping, conclusory statements. <u>Id.</u>, 1992 WL 247587, at \*4, 1992 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 14063, at \*10 (citing Thigpen v. United States, 800 F.2d 393, 396 (4th Cir.1986)). This jurisdictional limitation represents Congress's effort to achieve "the golden mean between adequate incentives for whistleblowing insiders with genuinely valuable information and discouragement of opportunistic plaintiffs who have no significant information to contribute of their own." Springfield, 14 F.3d at 649.

# \*234 B. The Court Lacks Subject-Matter Jurisdiction

#### 1. The Plaintiff's Claim is Based on Transactions

#### and Allegations in Public Disclosures

[12] The defendants argue that the plaintiff's suit is based on allegations that were publicly disclosed in the OIG Report. FN7 Defs.' Mot. at 14. The OIG Report investigated allegations that some businesses received "small business" status when they did not meet the requirements of a small business. Am. Compl., Attach. 2 at 6546. The OIG's MOI then states that the defendants "verified their small business status verbally" when contacted by the INS. *Id.* at 6547. Because the plaintiff's suit alleges that the defendants were, in fact, not small business, the defendants argue that the plaintiff's suit is based on allegations contained in the OIG Report. Defs.' Mot. at 16.

FN7. The defendants argue, and the plaintiff does not dispute, that the OIG Report is a "public report" of an investigation that "falls squarely within the language and purpose of the term 'public disclosure' in the FCA's jurisdictional bar." Defs.' Mot. at 14; see also Defs.' Mot, Ex. R (explaining that "the Inspector General ... enforces criminal and civil laws, regulations and ethical standards within DOJ by investigating individuals and organizations who allegedly are involved in financial, contractual or criminal misconduct in DOJ programs and operations").

[13] The D.C. Circuit explained the significance of the terms "allegation" and "transaction" in the FCA's jurisdictional provision by using the following formula: X (misrepresented state of facts) + Y (true state of facts) = Z (fraud). Springfield, 14 F.3d at 654; see also Findley, 105 F.3d at 687. A qui tam action cannot proceed when "all the material elements of the fraudulent transaction are already in the public domain" (i.e., X and Y are in the public domain), even if the plaintiff "comes forward with additional evidence incriminating the defendant." Springfield, 14 F.3d at 655. FN8 However, where only one element of the fraudulent transaction is in the public domain (e.g., X), the qui tam plaintiff may mount a case by coming forward with either the additional elements necessary to state a case of fraud (e.g., Y) or allegations of fraud itself (e.g., Z). Springfield, 14 F.3d at 655.

FN8. The rationale behind this limitation on

qui tam suits is that, "when the publicly disclosed transaction is sufficient to raise the inference of fraud, there is 'little need for qui tam actions, which tend to be suits that the government presumably has chosen not to pursue or which might decrease the government's recovery in suits it has chosen to pursue." United States ex rel. Findley v. F.P.C.-Boron Employees' Club, 105 F.3d 675, 687 (D.C.Cir.1997) (quoting Springfield, 14 F.3d at 654).

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Contrary to the defendants' argument, the OIG Report's statement that the defendants verified their small business status verbally does not rise to the level of an "allegation" as defined by the D.C. Circuit. The statement constitutes only the misrepresented state of facts (i.e., X) in the fraudulent transaction. Springfield, 14 F.3d at 654. In other words, the MOI standing alone is "innocuous" and does not "raise the specter of foul play." Id.; Findley, 105 F.3d at 687 (internal quotation marks omitted). The existence of the OIG Report in the public domain, therefore, does not divest the court of jurisdiction; theoretically, the plaintiff could still meet the jurisdictional requirement by offering information regarding the true state of facts (i.e., Y) or an allegation of fraud itself (i.e., Z). Springfield, 14 F.3d at 655.

[14][15] The court, however, does not have jurisdiction to hear the present case because information revealing the true state of facts already exists in the public \*235 domain in another form. Specifically, media reports documenting the size and scope of the defendants' businesses existed long before the plaintiff filed its qui tam suit. See, e.g., Defs.' Mot., Ex. S (Philip H. Dougherty, 2 Units to Merge At Dovle Dane, N.Y. TIMES, Feb. 21, 1985 at D25) (reporting that Hodes joined a business with "\$20 million in billings"); Id., Ex. T (James L. Rowe Jr., J. Walter Thompson Plans to Buy Hill & Knowlton, WASH. POST, Feb. 11, 1980 at D7) (noting that JWT had "worldwide billings of nearly \$1.5 billion in 1978"); Id., Ex. W (MorganWorks.com Appoints Four New Executives to Senior Management Team, PR NEWSWIRE, March 30, 2000) (describing Cass as a "\$30 million company"). The plaintiff's statement that each defendant is "a large business not entitled to any preference as a small business, or a small, disadvantaged business," Am. Compl. ¶ 2, merely "repeats what the public already knows," Findley, 105 F.3d at

683. Moreover, because the information disclosed in the OIG Report and the numerous media reports on the defendants would suffice to "set government investigators on the trail of fraud," there is little need for a qui tam lawsuit based on this set of facts. FN9 Springfield, 14 F.3d at 655; see also Settlemire, 198 F.3d at 919 (advising that "there is no requirement ... that the relevant public disclosures irrefutably prove a case of fraud. It is sufficient that the 'publicly disclosed transaction is sufficient to raise the inference of fraud' ") (quoting Findley, 105 F.3d at 687); Findley, 105 F.3d at 688 (concluding that "[i]f a relator merely uses his or her unique expertise or training to conclude that the material elements already in the public domain constitute a false claim, then a qui tam action cannot proceed"). Having concluded that the plaintiff's claim is based on allegations in public disclosures, FN10 the court now proceeds to the original source inquiry.

FN9. Indeed, there are several indications offered by the plaintiff itself that suggest that the Immigration and Naturalization Service ("INS") knew that the defendants were each large businesses. In January 1997, the plaintiff wrote to the OIG claiming that "several large white firms misrepresented themselves ... with the INS' contract and program people's knowledge." Cooper Decl., Ex. L. Months later, in its suit against the INS, the plaintiff explicitly claimed that the INS knowingly issued contracts to "non-8(a) companies" and "improperly designated them as disadvantaged businesses" on various work orders. Defs.' Mot., Ex. D ¶ 26.

FN10. The court rejects the plaintiff's argument that its *qui tam* claim is not "based upon" information in the OIG Report merely because the Report does not mention actual payments or claims for payment. Pl.'s Opp'n at 19. The FCA's jurisdictional bar precludes suits by "individuals who base *any part of their allegations* on publicly disclosed information." *United States ex rel. Schwedt v. Planning Research Corp., Inc., 39* F.Supp.2d 28, 34 (D.D.C.1999) (citing *United States ex rel. McKenzie v. BellSouth Telecom., Inc., 123 F.3d 935, 940 (6th Cir.1997), cert. denied, 522 U.S. 1077, 118 S.Ct. 855, 139 L.Ed.2d 755 (1998)) (empha-*

sis in original); see also <u>United States ex rel.</u>
<u>Precision Co. v. Koch Indus.</u>, 971 F.2d 548, 552 (10th Cir.1992) (concluding that a *qui tam* suit "even partly based upon publicly disclosed allegations or transactions is nonetheless 'based upon' such allegations or transactions," because to hold otherwise "would impermissibly expand federal jurisdiction by allowing *qui tam* plaintiffs to avoid the more exacting 'original source' requirement simply by asserting an additional count").

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# 2. The Plaintiff is Not an Original Source of Any Information Underlying the Allegation

[16][17][18] The defendants argue that the plaintiff did not have "first-hand knowledge of any of alleged misrepresentations." Defs.' Mot. at 17. The FCA requires a qui tam plaintiff to possess direct and independent knowledge of the "'information' \*236 underlying the allegation, rather than direct and independent knowledge of the 'transaction' itself." Springfield, 14 F.3d at 656. Accordingly, the plaintiff can surmount the FCA's jurisdictional bar by demonstrating direct and independent knowledge of "any essential element of the underlying fraud transaction (e.g., Y)." *Id.* at 657 (emphasis in original). In other words, the plaintiff can establish subject-matter jurisdiction by proving that it is the original source of either the information concerning the alleged misrepresentations or the information indicating that the defendants are all large businesses. FN11

FN11. Therefore, the defendants' contention that, "to qualify as an 'original source' able to bring a *qui tam* action, the private plaintiff must have first hand, independent knowledge of the misrepresented state of facts as well as the true state of facts," Defs.' Mot. at 17, is a misinterpretation of this circuit's FCA jurisprudence.

[19] The plaintiff fails to show direct and independent knowledge of either type of information. With respect to the information found in the OIG Report, the plaintiff first argues that it "voluntarily provided the information prior to any public disclosure, ... had first-hand knowledge of the information (by reason of [the plaintiff's] performance under its tripartite Letter Contract)," and that its "knowledge does not depend

or rely upon the later public disclosures." FN12 Pl.'s Opp'n at 20. Although the plaintiff did write to the OIG in January 1997 that "several large white firms misrepresented themselves ... in order to obtain contracts with the [INS]," this vague statement fails to demonstrate that the plaintiff had any knowledge of alleged wrongdoing by the particular defendants. FN13 United States ex rel. Kinney v. Stoltz, 327 F.3d 671, 675 (8th Cir.2003) (stating that knowledge of fraudulent practices in general is not sufficient to overcome the FCA's jurisdictional bar, and that a plaintiff must demonstrate direct and independent knowledge of the role played by the particular defendants).

FN12. Curiously, the plaintiff does not make any effort to explain or support this conclusory statement. The court, however, surmises that the plaintiff is referring to its January 1997 letters to the Department of Justice's Office of the Inspector General ("OIG") and the SBA. See Cooper Decl., Exs. L, M.

<u>FN13.</u> It is also possible that the plaintiff's letters to the OIG and the SBA provided the impetus for the OIG investigation. Defs.' Mot. at 18. This fact alone, however, does not assist the plaintiff in meeting the burden of establishing the court's subject-matter jurisdiction. Although the plaintiff may have communicated vague suspicions of fraudulent practices by unnamed entities, it was the OIG that uncovered, through its own investigations, the identities of the alleged perpetrators and the exact circumstances of their allegedly fraudulent acts. Id. Therefore, the plaintiff is not the original source of the information at issue. United States ex rel. Dhawan v. N.Y. Med. Coll., 252 F.3d 118, 121 n. 3 (2d Cir.2001) (remarking that, even if the government would not have performed an audit "but for plaintiff's request ..., this allegation would not suffice to show that they were the source of the core information") (emphasis in original); *United States* ex rel. Hafter v. Spectrum Emergency Care, Inc., 190 F.3d 1156, 1163 (10th Cir.1999) (concluding that where "most of the core information contained in the complaint came from [a third party's] independent research and investigation," the plaintiff's claim that it "provided the initial impetus for [the third party's] investigation" did not demonstrate direct and independent knowledge).

Assuming arguendo that the plaintiff's letter to the OIG sufficed to show that the plaintiff had knowledge of the defendants' alleged wrongdoings prior to the release of the OIG Report (i.e., that the plaintiff had independent knowledge of the alleged fraud), the letter would still not establish that the plaintiff's knowledge was direct. See \*237 United States ex rel. Aflatooni v. Kitsap Physicians Servs., 163 F.3d 516, 526 (9th Cir.1999) (reasoning that "the purposes of the [FCA] would not be served by allowing a relator to maintain a qui tam suit based on pure speculation or conjecture"). The court, therefore, cannot accept the plaintiff's conclusory and unsupported statement that it is the original source of the information contained in the OIG Report.

In addition, the plaintiff does not argue that it is the original source of the information regarding the size and wealth of the defendant businesses that was disclosed in various media reports. Further, there is no evidence in the record that the plaintiff provided-or could have provided-any media outlets with this information. Because the plaintiff has failed to meet its burden of establishing subject-matter jurisdiction, the court grants the defendants' Rule 12(b)(1) motion to dismiss. FNIS

<u>FN14.</u> In fact, the plaintiff makes no mention in its opposition of the D.C. Circuit's (and the defendants') use of the "X + Y = Z" formula.

<u>FN15.</u> Accordingly, the court will not address the arguments made by the defendants pursuant to <u>Federal Rule of Civil Procedure</u> 12(b)(6).

# C. The Court Grants the Defendants' Request for Attorneys' Fees and Expenses

[20][21][22] The defendants request that the court award them attorneys' fees and expenses under the FCA's fees provision, 31 U.S.C. § 3730(d)(4). FN16 Defs.' Mot. at 28. They argue that the plaintiff's claims are "untimely and otherwise meritless." *Id.* at 29. In addition, the defendants assert that the plaintiff added "a new and wholly frivolous unjust enrichment

claim for no apparent reason other than to harass [the d]efendants." *Id.* The plaintiff does not offer any arguments opposing the defendants' request for fees. Because the plaintiff's complaint is frivolous and vexatious, the court grants the defendants' request for attorneys' fees and expenses.

FN16. The defendants also argue that they are entitled to sanctions and attorneys' fees under 28 U.S.C. § 1927, which allows a court to "assess attorneys' fees against an attorney who frustrates the progress of judicial proceedings." United States v. Wallace, 964 F.2d 1214, 1218 (D.C.Cir.1992). Before imposing sanctions under this provision, the court must evaluate whether the attorney's conduct has been "at least reckless." Id. at 1217 (emphasis in original). The party moving for sanctions and fees bears the burden of showing that opposing counsel acted recklessly. <u>Healey v. Labgold</u>, 231 F.Supp.2d 64, 68 (D.D.C.2002). Here, the defendants only allege that the plaintiff's claim is frivolous and vexatious, but they do not make any allegations that the plaintiff's attorney acted recklessly.

# 1. Legal Standard for Awarding Attorneys' Fees and Expenses Under Section 3730(d)(4) of the FCA

[23][24][25][26] Section 3730(d)(4) of the FCA provides:

the court may award to the defendant its reasonable attorneys' fees and expenses if the defendant prevails in the action and the court finds that the claim of the person bringing the action was clearly frivolous, clearly vexatious, or brought primarily for the purposes of harassment.

31 U.S.C. § 3730(d)(4). In deciding whether to award attorneys' fees and expenses, the court must determine whether the plaintiff's suit falls within any of the three enumerated categories. FN17 Applying \*238 the statute, "it is important that a district court resist the understandable temptation to engage in *post hoc* reasoning by concluding that, because a plaintiff did not ultimately prevail, his action must have been unreasonable or without foundation." Christiansburg Garment Co. v. Equal Employment Opportunity

Comm'n, 434 U.S. 412, 421-22, 98 S.Ct. 694, 54 L.Ed.2d 648 (1978) (section 1988 context). The court can only base an award of attorneys' fees and expenses "upon a finding that the plaintiff's action was frivolous, unreasonable, or without foundation" FN18 Id.; see also Houston v. Norton, 215 F.3d 1172, 1174 (10th Cir.2000) (holding that, "a plaintiff should not be assessed his opponent's attorney[s'] fees unless a court finds that his claim was frivolous, unreasonable, or groundless, or that the plaintiff continued to litigate after it clearly became so ...").

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FN17. Case law interpreting the attorneys' fees and expenses provision of the FCA is scant at best. United States ex rel. Mikes v. Straus, 98 F.Supp.2d 517, 527 (S.D.N.Y.2000). But, because the FCA's legislative history indicates that "the standard of § 3730(d)(4) is analogous to that used for claims for attorney[s'] fees brought under 42 U.S.C. § 1988 [the Civil Rights Attorney's Fees Awards Act]," section 1988 cases are instructive in determining when awarding such fees is appropriate. United States ex rel. Grynberg v. Praxair, Inc., 389 F.3d 1038, 1055 (10th Cir.2004); see also Pfingston v. Ronan Eng'g Co., 284 F.3d 999, 1006 (9th Cir.2002); Mikes, 98 F.Supp.2d at 527. In some instances, courts applying the attorneys' fees and expenses provision of the FCA also look to the sanction provision of Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 11, which allows the court to impose sanctions "when a suit is 'interposed' for any improper purpose, such as to harass or to cause unnecessary delay[,]" *Herbert*, 1992 WL 247587, at \*7, 1992 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 14063, at \*19; see, e.g., Mikes, 98 F.Supp.2d at 527 (citing LeBlanc-Sternberg v. Fletcher, 143 F.3d 765, 770 (2d Cir.1998) (internal citations omitted)).

FN18. A district court should review "the entire course of the litigation" in making this determination. *Grynberg*, 389 F.3d at 1059 (citing *Christiansburg Garment Co. v. Equal Employment Opportunity Comm'n*, 434 U.S. 412, 421-22, 98 S.Ct. 694, 54 L.Ed.2d 648 (1978)).

[27][28] A claim is frivolous if it is utterly lacking in

legal merit and evidentiary support. *United States ex* rel. Mikes v. Straus, 98 F.Supp.2d 517, 526-27, 528 (S.D.N.Y.2000) (noting that a claim is not frivolous if the plaintiff produces "some evidence" to support it). See also Gerena-Valentin v. Koch, 739 F.2d 755, 756-57 (2d Cir.1984) (awarding fees under 42 U.S.C. § 1988 to a prevailing defendant when the plaintiff failed to "produce any evidence whatsoever in support of his retaliation and conspiracy claim"). Evidence of vexatiousness or an intent to harass on the part of a plaintiff includes, but is not limited to, actions that deliberately delay the proceedings, attempts to relitigate a previously decided claim against the same defendant, the raising of new allegations in an effort to circumvent the arguments in a defendant's motion to dismiss, Herbert, 1992 WL 247587, at \*8, 1992 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 14063, at \*21-22, and the inclusion of counts for which the available evidence "defeat[s] any inference of a false claim." FN19 Mikes, 98 F.Supp.2d at 527.

FN19. The distinction between vexatious conduct and harassment stems from the intentions of the plaintiff. Although the word "harassment" suggests bad faith on the part of the plaintiff, "the term 'vexatious' in no way implies that the plaintiff's subjective bad faith is a necessary prerequisite to a fee award against him." Christiansburg Garment Co., 434 U.S. at 421, 98 S.Ct. 694; see also Washington Hosp. Ctr. v. Serv. Employees Int'l Union, 746 F.2d 1503, 1509 (D.C.Cir.1984) (concluding that a claim can be vexatious "even though [it is not] brought in subjective bad faith").

# 2. The Plaintiff's Complaint is Frivolous and Vexatious

[29][30] The defendants are "prevailing parties" for FCA purposes in this case even though the court's dismissal is for lack of jurisdiction. *United States ex rel. Stewart v. Fleet Fin. Group*, 1999 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 13624, at \*20 (W.D.Mich.1999), *aff'd*, 229 F.3d 1154 (6th Cir.2000). The evidence in this case shows that the INS was aware that the defendants were \*239 not small and or disadvantaged businesses and offered them advertising and public relations contracts anyway. A claim is frivolous and vexatious if the government's awareness of the circumstances constituting the alleged transgression makes any legal

claim of fraud untenable. <u>Herbert</u>, 1992 WL 247587, at \*7, 1992 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 14063, at \*19, \*20 (stating that the government's knowledge and approval of the defendants' use of documents despite possible copyright infringement "negat[es] any claim of fraud"); see also <u>United States ex rel. Minna Ree Winer Children's Class Trust v. Regions Bank of La.</u>, 1996 WL 264981 at \*7-8, 1996 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 7142 at \*24 (E.D.La. May 16, 1996) (concluding that the plaintiff's claim was frivolous and vexatious because the government's awareness and approval of the details of the plaintiff's property transactions negated a claim of fraud).

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The plaintiff claims that the defendants received orders from the INS "as a result of" their false representations about the size and scope of their businesses. Am. Compl. ¶¶ 2, 15. During the course of the plaintiff's suit against the government, however, the INS explicitly admitted that it "obtained, with the concurrence of SBA, some advertising services from other vendors outside the section 8(a) program" and even named defendant JWT as one such vendor. Defs.' Mot., Ex. D, ¶ 26; Defs.' Mot., Ex. E. ¶ 26; Defs.' Mot., Ex. F ¶ 44; Defs.' Mot., Ex. G ¶ 44. The documents that the plaintiff submits in support of its opposition to the defendants' motion to dismiss include, inter alia, a May 1996 message from the INS to the SBA declaring the INS's intention to meet its advertising requirements by issuing contracts to a non-8(a) business because "numerous 8(a) firms were assessed, with no company possessing the qualifications appropriate for this requirement." Cooper Decl., Ex. H at 426. Even in its January 1997 letter to the OIG, the plaintiff alleged that the defendants' "fraud took place with the INS' [sic.] contract and program people's knowledge." Id., Ex. L (emphasis added).

[31] The government's decision to award contracts to the defendants, despite its knowledge that the defendants were not small or disadvantaged businesses, negates any claim of fraud against the defendants. FN20 The plaintiff examined the above-cited documents and even acknowledged the INS's awareness of the defendants' true business status in its letter to the OIG. Cooper Decl., Ex. L. Nevertheless, it decided to file the present suit, lodging claims that fly in the face of the available evidence. The court therefore concludes that the plaintiff filed a frivolous and vexatious lawsuit and awards the defendants attorneys' fees and expenses. FN21

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FN20. The defendants' statements to the INS employee confirming their small or disadvantaged business status and the designation of the defendants as "Disadvantaged" on the government-issued orders is admittedly curious. Am. Compl., Attach. 2 at 6547; Am. Compl., Attach. 1.

FN21. The defendants also argue for the awarding of attorneys' fees and expenses based on the untimeliness of the plaintiff's claim. Because the court has awarded attorneys' fees and expenses on other grounds, however, it declines at this time to decide whether the untimeliness of the plaintiff's claim qualifies it as frivolous, vexatious or for the purpose of harassment within the meaning of the FCA. The court also rejects the defendants' allegation that the plaintiff added a claim of unjust enrichment to its amended complaint for the purpose of harassing the defendants, Defs.' Mot. at 29, because the plaintiff later stipulated to the dismissal of the claim, Stipulation and Order at 2.

## IV. CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, the court grants the defendants' motion to dismiss \*240 and for attorneys' fees and expenses. An order directing the parties in a manner consistent with this Memorandum Opinion is separately and contemporaneously issued this 23rd day of March, 2006.

D.D.C.,2006. U.S. ex rel. J. Cooper & Associates, Inc. v. Bernard Hodes Group, Inc. 422 F.Supp.2d 225

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# IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA Alexandria Division

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	Memorandum Opinion
Defendants.	)
	)
CHARLES PATTEN, SR.	)
IIF DATA SOLUTIONS, and	)
	)
v.	) Civil No. 1:06-cv-641
Relator,	)
<b>D</b> 4	)
THOMAS M. UBL	)
UNITED STATES ex rel.	)

This matter comes before the Court on Defendants IIF Data Solutions and Charles Patten, Sr.'s Motion to Establish Liability for Attorneys' Fees (Dkt. no. 341). The Court heard oral arguments on the matter on November 20, 2009. The parties have now submitted supplemental briefs pursuant to this Court's December 4, 2009 Order establishing Relator's liability for fees from March 24, 2009 and October 27, 2009.

# I. Background

This motion for fees arises out of a *qui tam* action against Defendants filed under the False Claims Act ("FCA"). Relator, Thomas M. Ubl ("Ubl"), is a former employee of Defendant IIF Data Solutions ("IIF"). The allegations in the Complaint were supposedly premised on Ubl's experiences as an IIF employee and his observations of fraud on the government perpetrated by IIF and Charles Patten, IIF's founder and President. The case proceeded down a long and tumultuous procedural path, ending with a seven-day trial before this Court. After deliberation, the jury returned a verdict in Defendants' favor on all counts.

After prevailing at trial, Defendants moved for fees under 31 U.S.C. § 3730(d)(4) ("§ 3730(d)(4)"), which provides for an award of reasonable attorneys' fees and expenses in cases which prove to be "clearly frivolous, clearly vexatious, or brought primarily for the purposes of harassment." In granting Defendants' motion for fees, the Court recognized this as a rare case in which "when the evidence in the record is viewed objectively," the Relator's claim "clearly had no reasonable chance of success." See United States ex rel. Vuyyuru v. Jadhav, 555 F.3d 337, 356 (4th Cir. 2009). As such, the Court determined that Defendants are entitled to recover a portion of their attorneys' fees and expenses.

Document #1530697

#### II. **Analysis**

### a. Identification of Frivolous Claims

# i. Section 3730(d)(4)'s Standard for Awarding Attorneys' Fees

In its December 4, 2009 Order (the "December 4 Order"), the Court ruled that at least some of Relator's claims were clearly frivolous or vexatious, and hence § 3730(d)(4) authorizes an award of attorneys' fees to the prevailing Defendants. Dec. 4 Order at 2.

In its entirety, § 3730(d)(4) provides that:

If the Government does not proceed with the action and the person bringing the action conducts the action, the court may award to the defendant its reasonable attorneys' fees and expenses if the defendant prevails in the action and the court finds that the claim of the person bringing the action was clearly frivolous, clearly vexatious, or brought primarily for purposes of harassment.

Defendants also moved for fees pursuant 28 U.S.C. § 1927; the Court denied that Motion in its December 4, 2009 Order.

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Here, Defendants clearly prevailed in this action. Our circuits have defined the "clearly frivolous, clearly vexatious, or brought primarily for purposes of harassment" standard contemplated by the FCA with subtle differences.

In U.S. ex rel. Vuyyuru v. Jadhav, 555 F.3d 337, 356 (4th Cir. 2009), the Fourth Circuit applied a standard which asks whether a Relator's claims "clearly have no reasonable chance of success" drawn from Mikes v. Straus, 274 F.3d 687, 704 (2d Cir. 2001). The Fourth Circuit, however, limited this understanding of § 3730(d)(4)'s standard "[f]or purposes of [that] appeal only."<sup>2</sup>

In interpreting § 3730(d)(4), several other Circuits have relied upon the Supreme Court's definition of frivolous found in the Title VII and 42 U.S.C § 1988 contexts. See, e.g., U.S. ex rel. Grynberg v. Praxair, Inc., 389 F.3d 1038, 1058 (10th Cir. 2004)(citing Christiansburg Garment Co. v. E.E.O.C., 434 U.S. 412 (1978)); see also Hughes v. Rowe, 449 U.S. 5 (1980). Under this definition, an award is justified when a relator's claims are "groundless or without foundation, rather than simply that the [relator] has ultimately lost his case." Christiansburg, 434 U.S. 412 (1978). Put another way, "[a] successful defendant. . . must demonstrate that the plaintiff has misused his statutory privilege and distorted the intent of the legislation." Grynberg, 389 F.3d at 1058 n. 22.<sup>3</sup>

A number of courts have recognized alternatively that "the government's [prior] awareness of the circumstances constituting the alleged transgression makes any legal claim of fraud" frivolous or vexatious for the purposes of § 3730(d)(4). U.S. ex rel. J. Cooper & Associates, Inc. v. Bernard Hodes Group, Inc., 422 F.Supp.2d 225, 239

<sup>2</sup> As the Relator notes, the Fourth Circuit has defined the term "frivolous" in other contexts as "patently without substance." See Ogundipe v. Mukasey, 541 F.3d 257, 259 (4th Cir. 2008).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Furthermore, a showing of a relator's bad faith is not a prerequisite to an award under § 3730(d)(4). *Id.* at 1058 (citing Houston v. Norton, 215 F.3d 1172, 1174 (10th Cir. 2000)).

(D.D.C. 2006); see also United States ex rel. Bane v. Breathe Easy Pulmonary Services, Inc., 2009 WL 1148632, at \*5 (M.D.Fla. 2009) (noting that courts have recognized claims of fraud are vexatious "where the government's undisputed prior knowledge of information alleged to constitute fraud defeated any inference of a false claim"); U.S. ex rel. J. Cooper & Associates, Inc. v. Bernard Hodes Group, Inc., 422 F.Supp.2d 225, 239 (D.D.C. 2006) ("The government's decision to award contracts to the defendants, despite its knowledge that the defendants were not small or disadvantaged businesses, negates any claim of fraud against the defendants."); United States ex rel. Minna Ree Winer Children's Trust v. Regions Bank of Louisiana, 1996 WL 264981, at \*7 (E.D.La. 1996). In other words, and as was the case here, when a company works closely with the government, and the government is well aware of particular aspects of a company's practices, a claim for fraud premised on those practices proves groundless.

The Court finds that under each of the tests identified above concerning frivolity and vexatiousness under § 3730(d)(4), Ubl's claims were sufficiently baseless to warrant an award of attorneys' fees to the prevailing Defendants.

## ii. The Frivolous and Vexatious Nature of Ubl's Claims

In evaluating the frivolity of Ubl's claims, the Court is careful to first focus on what any relator must prove to establish an FCA inducement claim, namely: (1) that the defendant made objectively false statements to the Government; (2) that those statements were made with the requisite scienter; and (3) that those statements were material. U.S. ex rel. Wilson v. Kellogg Brown & Root, Inc., 525 F.3d 370, 376 (4th Cir. 2008). Ubl's allegations proved consistently baseless, particularly with regard to the objective falsity and scienter elements required by any FCA claim. Puzzlingly, despite this Court's

December 4 Order establishing Ubl's liability for fees under § 3730(d)(4), Ubl's counsel devotes considerable space in their supplemental brief urging the Court to deny fees and costs altogether. Thus, though the Court declines to rehash the entire litigation in this Opinion, the Court will address a few of the more prevalent examples of the frivolous nature of Ubl's case for the sake of clarity.

First, with regard to Relator's claims concerning the "fraudulent" nature of IIF's labor categories, the testimony at trial, both by IIF employees and employees of the GSA and NGB, demonstrated that IIF's labor categories were reasonable. Moreover, as Defendants note, it appeared that it was NGB which "had the responsibility for determining whether a particular employee met the relevant qualifications." Def. First Brief at 9-10. Ubl proffered no basis for the notion that IIF's representations in those labor categories rose to the level of fraud, and if anything, the evidence submitted at trial proved that these definitions carried neither objective falsity nor the requisite intent necessary to substantiate an FCA claim. Relator's lawyers' deposition of Katherine Jocoy of the GSA should have alerted them to this defect well before trial.

Second, Relator's allegations regarding IIF's putative knowing submission of a fraudulent commercial price list was similarly baseless. Like Ms. Jocoy's deposition, Relator's lawyers' deposition of Ms. Van Tran of the GSA should have alerted Relator to the defects in his claim premised on the commercial price list, as the commercial price list is not typically relied upon and it is commonplace in the industry for a contracting company to list labor categories in their price lists even if they have not sold all of those categories previously.

Third, Relator claimed that IIF fraudulently represented that there were hourly rates "on" particular purchase orders in its IT Schedule application. The evidence at trial indicated that the work IIF did for Amerind implicated hourly rates even if the purchase orders failed to specifically list those rates. Even if this act were construed to be a mistake on IIF's part, elevating it further to the level of fraud is simply implausible. Rather, Ubl's claims proved to be premised on Ubl's own hypertechnical construction of whether IIF listed rates "on" purchase orders, rather than any objectively persuasive evidence.

Lastly, Relator's claims regarding the falsity of IIF's representations about TMCI's authorization of a 60-hour work week, the "negotiated" discounts with TMCI, and IIF's reporting of labor categories and rates it had sold to TMCI all proved groundless. At most, some of these allegations proved to be oversights on IIF's part, but Relater demonstrated no basis for the assertion that any of these acts rose to the level of knowingly fraudulent behavior.

Not only did his case result in an unfavorable jury verdict, Ubl's failings as a qui tam relator ran much deeper. The evidence submitted at trial overwhelmingly demonstrated that his groundless claims clearly had no reasonable chance of success. The evidence consistently indicated that Mr. Patten's extensive background in government service and his ongoing close relationship with the governmental entities with which IIF contracted were such that the government consistently knew exactly what it was paying for when it contracted with Defendants. Regardless of whatever technical defects might have existed in Defendants' contracting practices, there was never any basis for Ubl's allegations of fraud in this case. Rather, this case was "based entirely on [Ubl's] own personal opinion, supposition and speculation," which were all tellingly without support, rendering his claims clearly

frivolous or vexatious under § 3730(d)(4). Minna Ree Winer Children's Trust, 1996 WL 264981, at \*7.

# iii. Tailoring the Award

Noting that "a defendant is entitled [under § 3730(d)(4)] to attorneys' fees for only those particular claims of a plaintiff deemed to be frivolous," Mikes v. Straus, 274 F.3d 687, 705 (2d Cir. 2001), the Court's December 4 Order required Defendants to provide further briefing "isolating each frivolous claim and itemizing the amount of fees due, to the extent practicable, in defending those claims." Thus, the Court has endeavored to constrain the award of fees solely to those claims meeting the standard demanded by § 3730(d)(4), and exclusively for the time period during which it was apparent that Ubl's claims were unreasonably groundless.

After receiving further briefing on the matter, it is apparent that the material elements of scienter and objective falsity were at issue in each of the claims premised on the three GSA schedule contracts, and defense counsel's efforts were accordingly directed with equal vigor at each of these claims. Thus, as Defendants argue, the efforts of defense counsel are not easily "fragmented" in such a way that this Court can further parse frivolous claims from the non-frivolous. Rather, as became exceedingly apparent throughout the course of trial, Ubl's allegations were equally baseless as to each of these accusations.

The more salient means by which the Court limits its award of fees in this case is by limiting the time frame for which Defendants' fees may be awarded and tailoring the award so that Defendants are awarded fees solely undertaken in response to Ubl's frivolous claims. In aid of that goal, Defendants have voluntarily abstained from seeking fees associated with: the motion to dismiss adjudicated during April and May of 2009, the subsequent settlement conference with Magistrate Judge Jones, defending against the motion to enforce the settlement agreement, the time spent pursuing their counterclaim against Ubl, and any time spent pursuing the present motion for attorneys' fees and expenses. Also, as noted, the Court's December 4 Order limited the applicable time period for an award of fees to March 24, 2009 through October 27, 2009.

Bearing in mind this narrowed scope, the Court now shifts to its analysis of the reasonableness of fees and expenses sought by Defendants under § 3730(d)(4).

# b. Reasonableness of the Fees Sought

The party seeking attorneys' fees bears the burden of demonstrating the reasonableness of the fees it seeks to recover. Plyler v. Evatt, 902 F.2d 273, 277 (4th Cir. 1990). "In calculating an award of attorney's fees, a court must first determine a lodestar figure by multiplying the number of reasonable hours expended times a reasonable rate." Robinson v. Equifax Info. Servs., 560 F.3d 235, 243 (4th Cir. 2009) (citing Grissom v. The Mills Corp., 549 F.3d 313, 320 (4th Cir. 2008)). "In deciding what constitutes a 'reasonable' number of hours and rate, we have instructed that a district court's discretion should be guided by the following twelve factors:

- (1) the time and labor expended;
- (2) the novelty and difficulty of the questions raised;
- (3) the skill required to properly perform the legal services rendered;
- (4) the attorney's opportunity costs in pressing the instant litigation;
- (5) the customary fee for like work;
- (6) the attorney's expectations at the outset of the litigation;
- (7) the time limitations imposed by the client or circumstances;
- (8) the amount in controversy and the results obtained;
- (9) the experience, reputation and ability of the attorney;
- (10) the undesirability of the case within the legal community in which the suit arose;

- (11) the nature and length of the professional relationship between attorney and client; and
- (12) attorneys' fees awards in similar cases."

Robinson, 560 F.3d at 243-44 (citing Barber v. Kimbrell's Inc., 577 F.2d 216, 226 n. 28 (4th Cir.1978) (adopting twelve factors set forth in Johnson v. Ga. Highway Express, Inc., 488 F.2d 714 (5th Cir.1974), abrogated on other grounds by Blanchard v. Bergeron, 489 U.S. 87, 109 S.Ct. 939, 103 L.Ed.2d 67 (1989))).4

Defendants seek to recover fees paid to: 1) the law firm of McKenna, Long, and Aldridge ("McKenna"); 2) Mr. Robert Cynkar; 3) Mr. Christopher Kachouroff; and 4) Mr. James Duane. In support of their motion for attorneys' fees, Defendants submit affidavits from each of these defense attorneys, in addition to a declaration made by John E. Coffey, a member of the Virginia Bar and partner at the law firm of Redmon, Peyton & Braswell in Alexandria, Virginia. Mr. Coffey has over thirty years of experience in complex commercial litigation in the Northern Virginia and metropolitan D.C. area and is the former President of the Northern Virginia Chapter of the Federal Bar Association. i. Analysis of Johnson Factors

# (1) The time and labor required:

As noted, this was a qui tam action filed under the auspices of the FCA, alleging numerous instances of fraud on the government perpetrated by Defendants. Defending this action required an understanding not only of the statutory framework of the FCA under which this case proceeded, but also of the government contracting industry in which the alleged fraud took place.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> In addition to these factors, an opposing party's ability to pay also has a bearing on a Court's fee assessment. Chaplin v. DuPont Advance Fiber Sys., 303 F.Supp.2d. 766, 775-76 (E.D.Va. 2004). The Court keeps this additional factor in mind as it proceeds with its review of Defendants' fee request and endeavors to account for Relator's ability to pay in fixing the reasonable amount of fees to be awarded

Defending this case also required an extensive commitment of time and labor, and the time actually spent by defense counsel in defending this case was reasonable in light of this undertaking. As established in their affidavits in support of their Motion, defense counsel spoke to some sixty persons in connection with this case and worked to reduce over 900 multi-page trial exhibits, totaling over 20,000 pages, down to less than 100 exhibits for trial. Counsel also engaged in pretrial motions practice, in addition to taking de bene esse depositions. Counsel also engaged in the expected preparations for trial, including the preparation of arguments, witness outlines, and jury instructions.

Defendants seek \$286,396.00 in fees paid to McKenna; \$319,531.25 paid to Cynkar; \$59,955.00 paid to Duane; and a flat fee of \$75,000.00 paid to Kachouroff. Defendants, save Mr. Duane and Mr. Kachouroff, <sup>5</sup> do not appear to summarize the actual number of hours expended by each attorney on the case, but do offer their billing rates as follows: Cynkar states his billing rate is \$625 per hour; Mr. Kachouroff states that his typical fee is \$350 per hour (but agreed to a flat, non-contingent rate in this case); Mr. Duane billed \$525 per hour; and McKenna billed Workmaster at \$460 per hour and Ms. Susan Hill a first-year associate at McKenna at \$285 per hour. Thus, in order to determine the number of hours worked by the other attorneys in this case, the Court divided the total fee charged by each attorney by the hourly rates mentioned above. This results in the following number of hours for each attorney: 511.25 hours by Mr. Cynkar, approximately 616 hours by Mr. Workmaster, and approximately 10 hours by Ms. Hill.<sup>6</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Mr. Coffey's declaration asserts that Mr. Duane worked 114.2 hours on this case, while Mr. Kachouroff worked "almost 1,700 hours."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> A chart submitted by Defendants indicates only a total amount of fees of \$286,396.00 sought for all McKenna attorneys. Mr. Coffey's declaration indicates that Ms. Hill did "less than 10 hours of work" on this case. Thus, the Court subtracted ten hours worth of fees from the total amount to reach 616 hours for Mr. Workmaster.

As noted, Defendants have voluntarily reduced the number of hours for which they seek reimbursement, eliminating fees associated with, inter alia, litigating the motion to dismiss adjudicated during April and May of 2009 and defending against the motion to enforce the settlement agreement. The Court also endeavored to carefully review the itemized billing records submitted in support of Defendants' motion which list the specific types of work for which defense counsel billed their time. Though the majority of the time entries indicate reasonable and necessary activities, the Court finds that an excessive number of hours were dedicated to "meetings" and "conferences" with co-counsel. While conferences just before and during trial are certainly reasonable, earlier in a case they should be kept to a minimum. Thus, the Court finds that a ten percent (10%) reduction of the hours submitted by Defendants properly accounts for the unnecessary meetings which should not be taxed to Plaintiff. See Jackson v. Estelle Place, LLC, 2009 WL 1321506, at \*4 (E.D.Va. May 8, 2009) ("Hours that are excessive, redundant, or unnecessary should not be included in a fee award.").

After factoring in this reduction, and given the nature of the case and the amount of work necessitated by some of counsel's late entry into the case, the amount of time and labor expended by counsel were reasonable. Therefore, this factor supports the reasonableness of the hours expended by Defendants' attorneys, though the Court will address in due course the billing rates charged by each attorney.

### (2) The novelty and difficulty of the questions raised:

As mentioned in the analysis of Factor 1 above, this case was somewhat complex by virtue of the documentary evidence at play and the nature of the industry in which the alleged fraud transpired. The actual questions of law under the statutory framework of

the FCA were not anomalously complex, but understanding the nature of government contracting work requires an attorney with a degree of specialization in the field. Therefore, this factor supports the reasonableness of the hours expended by defense counsel and the corresponding billing rates established below.

# (3) The skill required to perform the legal service properly:

As mentioned, several of the substantive issues presented in this case called for attorneys with a background in the field of government contracting, which Mr. Workmaster possesses. The remainder of counsel's skills were oriented toward the ability to successfully present and try a case at trial. As noted in their declarations, Messrs. Cynkar and Duane alone have approximately sixty years of trial and legal experience between them. Mr. Cynkar presents significant experience in litigating complex civil matters and Mr. Duane has significant experience in trial work and also presents a substantial expertise in the field of evidence, having researched, written, and taught on the subject extensively.

# (4) The attorneys' opportunity costs in pressing the instant litigation:

This factor is perhaps most relevant in the present case to Mr. Kachouroff, who worked on this case under a fixed fee arrangement. On one hand, a fixed fee arrangement greatly reduces the opportunity cost borne by an attorney, as his income is guaranteed regardless of the disposition of the case. On the other hand, in his affidavit, Mr. Kachouroff attests to agreeing to take the case for a fixed fee of \$100,000, which he now reduces to \$75,000 for purposes of the time period established above, and states that he dedicated the "majority" of his time and attention to this case. He further states that he interviewed approximately 60 people in preparation of the case and reviewed over 20,000 pages of documents. Mr. Coffey's declaration also indicates that Mr. Kachouroff worked nearly 1,700 hours on this case between March 24, 2009 and October 27, 2009. The Court takes the foregoing as a significant indication of the extent to which Mr. Kachouroff's involvement in this case worked to the exclusion of other potential business at his firm. A similar logic applies to the remainder of Defendants' attorneys. Each billed at an hourly rate, and thus were guaranteed payment for the time they expended regardless of the outcome of the trial. Nonetheless, the Court notes that the extensive time spent by counsel, particularly on the eve of trial, potentially worked to the exclusion of addressing other matters.

# (5) The customary fee for like work:

As noted, Defendants seek an award of fees at the following hourly rates: \$625 per hour for Mr. Cynkar; \$525 per hour for Mr. Duane; \$460 per hour for Mr. Workmaster; and \$285 per hour for Ms. Susan Hill a first-year associate at McKenna. Mr. Kachouroff was retained on a flat, non-contingent rate in this case.

In order to carry its burden on this factor, Defendants must present the Court with adequate evidence of the prevailing rates in the relevant market. Plyler, 902 F.2d at 277. "In addition to the attorney's own affidavits, the fee applicant must produce satisfactory specific evidence of the prevailing market rates in the relevant community for the type of work for which he seeks an award." Id. (internal quotation marks omitted). As the Fourth Circuit reaffirmed in Rum Creek Coal Sales v. Caperton, 31 F.3d 169 (4th Cir. 1994), "[t]he relevant market for determining the prevailing rate is ordinarily the

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community in which the court where the action is prosecuted sits." *Id.* at 175 (citing *National Wildlife Federation v. Hanson*, 859 F.2d 313, 317 (4th Cir. 1988)).

In this case, Defendants rely on several sources of support for the rates asserted:

1) the affidavits of their own attorneys; 2) the declaration of Mr. Coffey; and 3) the

"Adjusted Laffey Matrix."<sup>8</sup>

As noted, merely relying upon an attorney's own affidavit is insufficient to establish an acceptable market rate for attorneys' fees under this factor. However, the Court does look to the rates an attorney has charged in the past and information in the affidavits regarding their relevant experience as helpful information at the outset of this inquiry.

As to Mr. Coffey's declaration, among the accepted types of evidence which are satisfactory to establish the prevailing market rates are "affidavits of other local lawyers who are familiar both with the skills of the fee applicants and more generally with the type of work in the relevant community." *Robinson*, 560 F.3d at 245. As noted, Mr. Coffey has extensive experience in litigating complex civil matters in this area. He attests to having the opportunity throughout his career to observe the rates charged by "DC area" law firms in complex civil litigation. He further bases his opinion on his experience in the same area of practice and on his discussions with attorneys at other complex civil litigation firms in the area. He also attests to becoming familiar with the work and skill of each of the defense attorneys by reviewing their work in this case. In

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Though the Fourth Circuit also noted that rates from other markets may be considered when a case is of such complexity or difficulty that no adequate local counsel is available, indicating that the party's choice of an out-of-market attorney was reasonable. *Id*.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> The "Laffey Matrix," is statement of market attorneys' fee rates for the Washington-Baltimore area published and periodically updated by the United States Attorney's Office for the District of Columbia. See Robinson, 560 F.3d at 244. The Laffey Matrix "is not binding upon the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia," Robinson, 560 F.3d at 244 (citations omitted), but can provide a useful cross reference for the Court.

Mr. Coffey's opinion, the rates asserted by defense counsel "fall well within the prevailing market rates in the Washington metropolitan area."

However, Mr. Coffey's broad reference to the prevailing rates in the "Washington metropolitan area" raises concerns about the accuracy of his declaration as it applies to this market. As noted, the relevant market for determining the appropriate prevailing rate for fees is the "community in which the court where the action is prosecuted sits," Rum Creek, 31 F. 3d at 175, indicating that greater emphasis should be placed on the prevailing rates specifically in Northern Virginia rather than then entire "Washington metropolitan area." In doing so, "courts in this district have repeatedly recognized that hourly rates charged in Washington, D.C. are usually higher than hourly rates charged in the Eastern District of Virginia." Jackson, 2009 WL 1321506 at \*3 (citing Am. Canoe Ass'n v. EPA, 138 F.Supp.2d 722, 740-42 (E.D.Va.2001)). Thus, an award at the full hourly rate recommended by Mr. Coffey is unsupported given the Court's obligation to focus on the proper relevant market.

Finally, regarding the Laffey Matrix, and as Mr. Coffey notes, there are actually two Laffey Matrixes in existence, one published by the United States Attorney's Office for the District of Columbia and one known as the "Adjusted Laffey Matrix." Mr. Coffey argues that the latter is the more accurate representation of prevailing market rates in the Northern Virginia/Washington, D.C. area. 10 The two Matrixes are provided below:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> The Court will refer to the former as the "Unadjusted" Laffey Matrix and the latter as the "Adjusted" Laffey Matrix.

Though Mr. Coffey is correct that a recent Fourth Circuit case references this "Adjusted Laffey Matrix," Newport News Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Co. v. Holiday, 591 F.3d 219, 229 n.11 (4th Cir. 2009), the Fourth Circuit was likewise careful to note that "the Laffey matrix is a useful starting point to determine fees, not a required referent." Id. at 229.

"Unadjusted" Laffey Matrix

	Years	03-04	04-05	05-06	06-07	07-08	08-09
Experience							
20+ years		380	390	405	425	440	465
11-19 years		335	345	360	375	390	410
8-10 years		270	280	290	305	315	330
4-7 years		220	225	235	245	255	270
1-3 years		180	185	195	205	215	225
Paralegals & Law Clerks		105	110	115	120	125	130

"Adjusted" Laffey Matrix

		EXPERIENCE				
	Paralegal/	1 to 3	4 to 7	8-10	11-19	20 +
Year	Law Clerk	Years	Years	Years	Years	Years
6/01/09- 5/31/10	\$155	\$285	\$349	\$505	\$569	\$686
6/01/08- 5/31/09	\$152	\$279	\$342	\$494	\$557	\$671
6/01/07-5/31/08	\$146	\$268	\$329	\$475	\$536	\$645
6/01/06-5/31/07	\$139	\$255	\$313	\$452	\$509	\$614
6/1/05-5/31/06	\$136	\$249	\$305	\$441	\$497	\$598
6/1/04-5/31/05	\$130	\$239	\$293	\$423	\$476	\$574

The Fourth Circuit, in *Grissom*, looked to the Unadjusted Laffey Matrix in evaluating fees in the Northern Virginia area and recognized that although the Matrix has been considered a "useful starting point" by some courts in evaluating fee requests, it is ultimately "insufficient to carry [the moving party's] burden of proof" on its own. 549 F.3d at 323.<sup>11</sup> Rather, the *Grissom* court adjusted the applicable market rates as indicated in the table provided below:

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Furthermore, reliance on the Laffey Matrix is also constrained by the fact that, as recognized above, hourly rates charged in Washington, D.C. are usually higher than those rates charged in this District. *Jackson*, 2009 WL 1321506 at \*3.

Grissom, 549 F.3d at 323 (hereafter the "Grissom Table").

As this Court recently noted, *Grissom* provides a useful benchmark for the present case, as it is a recent Fourth Circuit decision (2008) involving complex civil litigation and reputable attorneys practicing in the Northern Virginia market. Accordingly, the Court makes the following findings with respect to each attorney bearing in mind each of these resources, but giving the greatest heed to the Fourth Circuit's guidance in Grissom.

#### i. Mr. Cynkar

As noted, Defendants seek fees in the amount of \$625 per hour for Mr. Cynkar's services. Mr. Cynkar has over thirty years of experience in commercial litigation. According to the Unadjusted Laffey Matrix, the hourly rate for a partner with over twenty years of experience is \$465 for the applicable period of time in this case, while the Adjusted Matrix puts that figure at \$686. Presumably, the Grissom Table would put Mr. Cynkar's hourly rate at \$380 or more. Clearly, an hourly rate of \$625 per hour exceeds both the Unadjusted Laffey Matrix and the Grissom Table. Though the Court gives great deference to the considered opinion of Mr. Coffey, a figure of \$625 per hour presents too significant a departure from the guidance presently available to the Court. As such, and in consideration of the record presently in front of the Court, an hourly rate of \$400 is appropriate for Mr. Cynkar's time.

#### ii. Mr. Duane

Next, Defendants seek fees in the amount of \$525 per hour for Mr. Duane's services. Though the exhibits submitted by Defendants do not indicate the number of years of experience Mr. Duane has spent in practice, the Court notes that Mr. Duane's CV indicates that he entered private practice in 1987 and moved to academia from 1991 through the present. Accordingly, the Court is confident that Mr. Duane falls in a similar category of over twenty years of experience, indicating \$465 under the Unadjusted Laffey Matrix, \$686 under the Adjusted Matrix, and \$380 on the Grissom Table. Given the foregoing analysis, the Court finds that a rate of \$400 per hour is also appropriate for the fees incurred for Mr. Duane's work in the case.

#### iii. Mr. Workmaster and Ms. Hill

Defendants seek fees in the amount of \$460 per hour for Mr. Workmaster and \$285 per hour for Ms. Susan Hill. Mr. Workmaster has almost ten years of experience, "including significant commercial litigation experience," while Ms. Hill is a first-year associate. The Grissom Table leaves a gap regarding attorneys at the experience level presented by Mr. Workmaster. See Grissom, 549 F.3d at 323 (gap between Associate with six to seven years of experience and Partner with eighteen to nineteen years of experience). However, after analyzing the rate at which the hourly rates in the Grissom Table increase in relation to years of experience, the Court finds that a billing rate of \$360 is reasonable for Mr. Workmaster. The two Laffey Matrixes and the Grissom Table puts the applicable rate for an attorney with Ms. Hill's experience between \$180 and \$285 per hour. In light of the foregoing, the Court deems \$200 to be a reasonable hourly fee for Ms. Hill's services.

#### Mr. Kachouroff iv.

Though Mr. Kachouroff was compensated in this case on a flat-fee basis (\$75,000 for the applicable period of time), the Court briefly addresses the reasonableness of his fee in this case. Mr. Kachouroff attests that he regularly bills clients at a rate of \$ 350-400 per hour. According to Mr. Coffey's declaration, Mr. Kachouroff worked over 1,700 hours on this case between March 24, 2009 and October 27, 2009, which equates to an hourly rate of only approximately \$44 per hour. Given the foregoing discussion, the Court deems Mr. Kachouroff's fee to be reasonable.

To summarize, the Court provides the following table indicating the reasonable hourly rate it awards for each defense attorney in this case:

TABLE 1

Title	Years of Experience	Hourly Rate
Mr. Cynkar	30+	\$ 400
Mr. Duane	20+	\$ 400
Mr. Workmaster	10	\$ 360
Ms. Hill	1	\$ 200
Mr. Kachouroff	10	N/A

# (6) The attorneys' expectations at the outset of the litigation:

This factor provides no additional support for an award of attorneys' fees, since the fee arrangement was fixed for each attorney, either on an hourly or flat-rate business.

# (7) The time limitations imposed by the client or circumstances:

The record contains no evidence that Defendants' attorneys were under abnormal time limitations beyond those typically imposed in this Division. Though the Court would note that a majority of Defendants' "trial" team began working in earnest around

the time the \$8.9 settlement fell through, there was nothing exceptional about client demands or the circumstances of this case which bear significant relevance under this factor. Thus, this factor provides no additional guidance regarding an award of attorneys' fees.

# (8) The amount in controversy and the results obtained:

"[T]he degree of success obtained by the plaintiff is the 'most critical factor' in determining the reasonableness of a fee award." Lilienthal v. City of Suffolk, 322 F. Supp. 2d 667, 675 (E.D. Va. 2005) (quoting Hensley v. Eckerhart, 461 U.S. 424, 436-437 (1983)). This case presented significant risks for Defendants. The Amended Complaint sought damages of \$140 million, potentially trebled under the FCA. Further, IIF ran the risk of debarment, which would have rendered it incapable of bidding on and receiving further government contracts, a death knell for a company in the government contracting industry. Thus, as Defendants argue, this case amounted to a "bet the company" litigation.

Given the high stakes of the case from the outset of trial, the results obtained by defense counsel were a significant success. As noted, the jury rendered a verdict in favor of Defendants on all counts, exposing Defendants to no liability whatsoever for the allegations put forth in the Amended Complaint. Given this case's procedural posture, which included a near \$8.9 million settlement, the result obtained by defense counsel certainly proved their value to their client. As such, this factor strongly weighs in favor of the award of fees, as reduced under factors 1 and 5 above. See § II.b.i.(5), supra.

# (9) The experience, reputation and ability of the attorney:

Filed: 01/07/2015 Page 321 of 605

As mentioned above in the Factor 5 analysis, Defendants' attorneys, with the exception of Ms. Hill, are all experienced in the field of government contracting or trial work. Messrs. Cynkar and Duane alone have approximately sixty years of trial and legal experience between them. Mr. Kachouroff and Mr. Workmaster have approximately eight and ten years of relevant experience, respectively. This experience supports a finding that the rates charged by these attorneys, as adjusted, were reasonable.

# (10) The undesirability of the case within the legal community in which the suit arose:

This factor provides no additional support for an award of attorneys' fees, as Defendants do not contend that this case was undesirable.

# (11) The nature and length of the professional relationship between attorney and client:

This factor applies most pertinently to Mr. Kachouroff, as he is the only attorney with a prior relationship with Defendants. Mr. Kachouroff has a long-standing relationship with IIF and Mr. Patten personally. Mr. Kachouroff asserts that this relationship compelled him to take the case on a flat fee basis, which, as discussed above, amounted to a low fee when broken down by the number of hours actually worked. As Mr. Coffey notes, the remainder of Defendants' attorneys had no prior relationship with IIF or Mr. Patten, and their retention and fees were negotiated in an arm's length manner.

# (12) Attorneys' fees awards in similar cases:

Neither party submits case law from similar cases for the Court's consideration under this factor. Nonetheless, the Court endeavored to locate similar cases which analyzed an award of attorneys' fees in similar circumstances. In one such case, U.S. ex rel. Vuyyuru v. Jadhav, 2007 WL 2471087 (E.D.Va. August 237, 2007), aff'd 555 F.3d 337 (4th Cir. 2009), this District, albeit in the Richmond Division, awarded attorneys'

fees in a False Claims Act case under § 3730(d)(4). In that case, the Court found, and the Fourth Circuit later confirmed, that rates of \$310 and \$400 per hour were reasonable. The Court finds this to be strong confirmation of the reasonableness of the fees awarded in the instant case. See also Quantum Systems Integrators, Inc. v. Sprint Nextel Corp. 2009 WL 3423848, at \*5 (E.D.Va. October 16, 2009)(finding rate of \$300 per hour reasonable for attorneys with fourteen to twenty-eight years of experience); Alford v. Martin & Gass, Inc., 2009 WL 2447936, at \*4 (E.D. Va. August 3, 2009 (awarding fees at range of \$60-\$350 per hour); Jackson, 2009 WL 1321506, at \*3 (awarding rates of \$350 per hour for partners with between eleven and nineteen years experience; \$170 for an associate with one to three years of experience; and \$60 for a legal assistant); Burns v. Anderson, 2006 WL 2456372, at \*9 (E.D.Va. August 22, 2006)(prevailing party sought rates ranging from \$664 to \$695 per hour for partners in major firm which the court reduced to \$265 to \$278 per hour).

Therefore, this factor also supports the reasonableness of the attorneys' fees charged by Defendants' attorneys, as reduced above.

# Balancing:

Reviewing the Court's analysis above of the *Johnson* factors, numbers 1-5, 8, 9, 11, and 12 support the reasonableness of the fee award here. Factors 6, 7, and 10 provide no additional support in Defendants' favor. However, as discussed, factor 5 supports a reduction of the hourly rate awarded to each attorney, as the rates proffered exceed the customary fees in this jurisdiction. In sum, consideration of the *Johnson* factors supports the reasonableness of the fee award here, as adjusted.

# ii. Lodestar figure

"Guided by [the *Johnson*] factors, the court should determine how many hours were reasonably spent on the litigation and the rate at which that work should be compensated." Toolchex, Inc. v. Trainor, 2009 WL 224486 at \*6 (E.D. Va. July 24, 2009) (citing McDonnell v. Miller Oil Co., 134 F.3d 638, 640 (4th Cir.1998)). "On that basis, the court can determine a 'lodestar figure,' which may be adjusted further." Id. Table 1 provides a summary of the hours billed, which the Court has already found reasonable, at the reasonable rates established above, as follows:

TABLE 2

Date	Hours Worked <sup>12</sup>	Rate	Total
03/24/2009 – 10/27/2009	Robert Cynkar = 460.125	\$400/hr	\$184,050
10/2//2007	James Duane = 102.78	\$400/hr	\$41,112
	Christopher Kachouroff = ~1,700	-	\$75,000
	Jason Workmaster = 554.40	\$360/hr	\$199,584
	Susan Hill = 9.00	\$200/hr	\$1,800
	Total Hours =		Total Fees =
	1,251 @ hourly rate/		\$501,546
	2,951 total		

## iii. Lodestar Reduction

In many cases, the Court is to consider a reduction of the fees awarded based upon the degree of success obtained in the litigation and should reduce an award to account for any unsuccessful claims. See Lilienthal, 322 F. Supp. 2d at 675 (quoting Hensley, 461 U.S. at 436-37.) ("[b]ecause the degree of success obtained by the plaintiff

<sup>12</sup> The figures in the "Hours Worked" column reflect the ten percent (10%) reduction in recoverable hours discussed above. See supra at § II(b)(i)(1).

is the 'most critical factor' in determining the reasonableness of a fee award, the district court 'may simply reduce the award to account for the limited success.""). However, given the Court's discussion above in Johnson factor 8, the Court finds no basis for a further reduction of the award. Defense counsel attained a complete victory for their client, warranting no reduction of the fees beyond those already noted.

# c. Expenses

Defendants also seek reimbursement \$5,201.97 in expenses. These expenses all relate to defense counsel's stay at the Westin Hotel in Alexandria, in close proximity to the courthouse, from October 16, 2009 through October 28, 2009. 13 Defense counsel argues that although Messrs. Workmaster and Cynkar have offices in Washington, D.C., the use of a central location in Alexandria for trial preparation was necessary and actually saved expenses throughout trial. Counsel do not seek expenses for food or telephone usage at the hotel, and thus only seek reimbursement for a portion of the Westin bill submitted as Defendants' Exhibit I, which results in a \$1,872.65 deduction from the bill's total of \$7,074.62, equaling the \$5,201.97 sought by Defendants.

After careful consideration, the Court does not find these expenses to be reasonable. Given that several defense attorneys have offices in reasonably close proximity to the courthouse, the use of the Westin was not reasonably necessary and counsel had less expensive alternatives at their disposal. Thus, the Court declines to award the \$5,201.97 in expenses sought by Defendants.

<sup>13</sup> Defendants' Exhibit I is an itemized bill from the Alexandria Westin, reflecting charges from October 16, 2009 through October 28, 2009, categorized as charges for "Room & Tax," "Food and Bev.," "Telephone," "Misc." (which Defendants identify as parking charges), and "Other" (which Defendants identify as occupancy and tourism taxes).

### III. Conclusion

For the foregoing reasons, the Court hereby awards Defendants \$501,546.00 in attorneys' fees and denies the expenses sought by Defendants.

An appropriate order shall issue.

Alexandria, Virginia April 28, 2010

Liam O'Grady

United States District Judge

# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

for the

District	of Columbia
Brian Burke, Plaintiff  v.  Record Press, Inc., Defendant	) ) Case No.: 1:08-cv-00364-DAR )
BILL	OF COSTS
Judgment having been entered in the above entitled action on	06/13/2013 against Brian Burke, Plainitff ,
the Clerk is requested to tax the following as costs:	Date
Fees of the Clerk	s
Fees for service of summons and subpoena	
Fees for printed or electronically recorded transcripts necessaril	0.400.05
Fees and disbursements for printing	
Fees for witnesses (itemize on page two)	F0 00
Fees for exemplification and the costs of making copies of any necessarily obtained for use in the case.	materials where the copies are
Docket fees under 28 U.S.C. 1923	30.00
Costs as shown on Mandate of Court of Appeals	
Compensation of court-appointed experts	
Compensation of interpreters and costs of special interpretation	
Other costs (please itemize)	
	TOTAL \$ 2,272.85
SPECIAL NOTE: Attach to your bill an itemization and docum	entation for requested costs in all categories.
•	claration
I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing co services for which fees have been charged were actually and ne in the following manner:	sts are correct and were necessarily incurred in this action and that the cessarily performed. A copy of this bill has been served on all parties lass mail, postage prepaid
Other: See attached Certificate of Service	ee
s/ Attorney: <u>John William Lomas, Jr.</u>	
Name of Attorney: John William Lomas, J.	r., McKenna Long & Aldridge, LLP
For: Defendant Record Press,	nc. Date: <u>07/03/2013</u>
Name of Claiming Party	
	ion of Costs
Costs are taxed in the amount of	
By:	Deputy Clerk Date

# United States District Court

Witness Fees (computation, cf. 28 U.S.C. 1821 for statutory fees)								
	ATTENDANCE SUBSISTENCE			MILI	EAGE	Total Cost		
NAME , CITY AND STATE OF RESIDENCE	Days	Total Cost	Days	Total Cost	Miles	Total Cost	Each Witness	
Calvin Adgerson, 2905 Upland Ave., Forestville, MD 20747	1	40.00			20	10.00	\$50.00	
							\$0.00	
							\$0.00	
							\$0.00	
							\$0.00	
							\$0.00	
					ТС	OTAL	\$50.00	

### NOTICE

### Section 1924, Title 28, U.S. Code (effective September 1, 1948) provides:

"Sec. 1924. Verification of bill of costs."

"Before any bill of costs is taxed, the party claiming any item of cost or disbursement shall attach thereto an affidavit, made by himself or by his duly authorized attorney or agent having knowledge of the facts, that such item is correct and has been necessarily incurred in the case and that the services for which fees have been charged were actually and necessarily performed."

### See also Section 1920 of Title 28, which reads in part as follows:

"A bill of costs shall be filed in the case and, upon allowance, included in the judgment or decree."

# The Federal Rules of Civil Procedure contain the following provisions: RULE 54(d)(1)

Costs Other than Attorneys' Fees.

Unless a federal statute, these rules, or a court order provides otherwise, costs — other than attorney's fees — should be allowed to the prevailing party. But costs against the United States, its officers, and its agencies may be imposed only to the extent allowed by law. The clerk may tax costs on 14 day's notice. On motion served within the next 7 days, the court may review the clerk's action.

### RULE 6

(d) Additional Time After Certain Kinds of Service.

When a party may or must act within a specified time after service and service is made under Rule5(b)(2)(C), (D), (E), or (F), 3 days are added after the period would otherwise expire under Rule 6(a).

### **RULE 58(e)**

Cost or Fee Awards:

Ordinarily, the entry of judgment may not be delayed, nor the time for appeal extended, in order to tax costs or award fees. But if a timely motion for attorney's fees is made under Rule 54(d)(2), the court may act before a notice of appeal has been filed and become effective to order that the motion have the same effect under Federal Rule of Appellate Procedure 4(a)(4) as a timely motion under Rule 59.

Filed: 01/07/2015

# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

BURKE v. RECORD PRESS Civil Action No. 1:08-cv-00364-DAR

# ATTACHMENT TO BILL OF COSTS ITEMIZED TRANSCRIPT COSTS

Vendor/Court Reporter   Transcript	Transcript	Transcript Cost	<b>Exhibit Cost</b>	Franscript Cost Exhibit Cost Shipping Cost Total	Total
Henderson Legal Services	Henderson Legal Services Deposition of Hugh Wilmot	\$ 277.50 \$	\$ 19.25	- \$	\$ 296.75
Henderson Legal Services	Henderson Legal Services Deposition of Brian Burke*	\$ 1,044.00	\$ 38.25	\$	25.00   \$ 1,107.25
Rebecca Stonestreet	Trial Transcript Morning Session	\$ 391.00			\$ 391.00
Wendy C. Richard	Trial Transcript Afternoon Session	\$8.795			\$ 397.85
Total					\$ 2,192.85

\*To avoid disputes, Record Press has not included costs for rough transcripts or the video recording of the Brian Burke deposition.

### Henderson Legal Services, Inc.

An Affiliate of National Depo 1015 15th Street, NW , Suite 525 Washington, DC 20005 Tel: 202-220-4158

Fax: 202-220-4162

Bill To: John W. Lomas, Esq. McKenna, Long & Aldridge 1900 K Street NW

Washington, DC 20006

DC30655 Invoice #: Invoice Date: 06/04/2010 **Balance Due:** \$ 0.00

Burke v. Record Press Case:

11961 | Job Date: 5/25/2010 | Delivery: Expedited Job #:

Billing Atty: John W. Lomas, Esq. McKenna, Long & Aldridge Location:

1900 K Street NW | Conf Room 2-B | Washington, DC 20006

Sched Atty: William O'Brien, Esq.

**Client Billing Matter Number** 

Item	Witness	Description	Units	Qty	Price	Amount
1	Hugh Wilmot, Jr.	Transcript - copy/copies	Page	111.00	\$2.50	\$277.50
2		Exhibits	Per page	77.00	\$0.25	\$19.25
3	Brian Burke	Transcript - Original & 1 copy	Page	174.00	\$6.00	\$1,044.00
4		Transcript - Rough ASCII	Page	174.00	\$1.55	\$269.70
5		Exhibits	Per page	153.00	\$0.25	\$38.25
6		Video - setup and 1st hour	1	1.00	\$275.00	\$275.00
7		Video - Additional hours	Hour	3.50	\$95.00	\$332.50
8		Video-Burn to DVD	Hour	2.50	\$25.00	\$62.50
9		Shipping & handling	Package	1,00	\$25.00	\$25.00

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McKenna, Long & Aldridge 1900 K Street NW Washington, DC 20006

Invoice #:

DC30655

Invoice Date:

06/04/2010

**Balance Due:** 

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Burke v. Record Press Case:

Job #:

11961 | Job Date: 5/25/2010 | Delivery: Expedited

Location:

Billing Atty: John W. Lomas, Esq. McKenna, Long & Aldridge

1900 K Street NW | Conf Room 2-B | Washington, DC 20006

Sched Atty: William O'Brien, Esq.

**Client Billing Matter Number** 

Item	Witness	Qty	Price	Amount		
Notes:	Original transcript of Burke, Transcript copy of Wilmot, re		Invoice Total: Payment: Credits:	<b>\$2,343.70</b> (\$2,343.70)		
Fed.	Tax ID: 20-3132569	Term: Due Upon Receip	t	1	Balance Due:	\$0.00

TERMS: Payable upon receipt. Accounts unpaid after 90 days agree to pay all collection costs, including reasonable attorney's fees. Contact us to correct payment errors. No adjustments or refunds will be made after 90 days.



Make check payable to: National Depo	
☐ Visa ☐ MC ☐ Amex ☐ Discover	☐ Lock Box
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Balance: \$ 0.00

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## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

BURKE v. RECORD PRESS Civil Action No. 1:08-cv-00364-DAR

# ATTACHMENT TO BILL OF COSTS ITEMIZED DOCKET FEES

Category	Amount
Trial/Final Hearing	\$20
Discontinuance of Civil Action	\$5
Motion for Judgment	\$5
Total	\$30

### UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

UNITED STATES, ex rel. BRIAN BURKE,

CASE NO. 1:08-cv-364 (DAR)

PLAINTIFF,

v.

RECORD PRESS, INC.,

DEFENDANT

### PLAINTIFF'S MOTION TO ALTER OR AMEND JUDGMENT

Plaintiff, Relator, Brian Burke ("Mr. Burke"), by and through its undersigned counsel, respectfully submits this Motion to Alter or Amend Judgment. In support thereof Plaintiff incorporates by this reference the facts and arguments contained in Brian Burke's affidavit attached hereto and to Morris Gocial's affidavit attached hereto.

WHEREFORE: Plaintiff respectfully requests that this honorable Court grant this Motion, and enter judgment in favor of Plaintiff in this matter, and award such other an further relief as this Court deems appropriate.

DATED: July 11, 2013

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/

Tyler Jay King, Esq. Bar No. 979592 1407 Nicholson Street, N.W. Washington, DC 20011 (202) 436-2641

### CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned hereby certifies that on this July 11, 2013, a copy of the foregoing was served by email to:

Darrell C. Valdez

John W. Lomas, Jr.

William T. O'Brien

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/

Tyler Jay King, Esq.

# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF **COLUMBIA**

UNITED STATES ex rel. BRIAN BURKE

Plaintiff,

-versus-

**Case No.** 1:08-cv-364(EGS)(DAR)

Judge: Deborah A. Robinson

RECORD PRESS, INC.,

Defendant.

### **AFFIDAVIT:**

"I declare and certify, verify, and state under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed on July 11, 2013:

This is Relator's Affidavit by BRIAN BURKE in support of Plaintiff's Motion for Amended Judgment, Fed. R. Civ. P. 59(e). Defendant, by counsel, has misstated evidence, used misdirection, misquoted, obfuscated, etc. in order to prevail and now retaliate and destroy this blue collar whistleblowing Civil Servant financially via ruinous fines/fees. This Court ruled in favor of Relator in regard to Defendant's 'frivolous' Rule 11 motion and Summary Judgment Motion(s). Then there is the Counterclaim. There are outstanding issues of Law and Fact, as the People are requesting an Amended Judgment on all issues. If this is not granted, an appeal to D.C. Circuit will be filed to review and/or reverse the new case law changing precedent and damaging Remedy under Federal False Claims Act. Please see also Relator's Affidavit attached to Opposition to Defendant's Motion for Attorney's Fees and Expenses.

### **MEETING OF MINDS**

Let us start with the first quote within Movant's Motion for Attorney's Fees and Expenses (Doc. 94, pg. 8) paragraph 2. ""the evidence offered by Plaintiff demonstrates that Defendant and the government had a meeting of the minds with respect to rates which Defendant would charge for services provided pursuant to the contract." (Dkt. #91, at 7.)". Relator will show that this conclusion of Fact and/or Law by the Court contradicts all previous case law with regard to when any 'meeting of minds' must occur. See also Plaintiff's Statement of Points and Authorities within Motion for Amended Judgment. Under any case law regarding Defendant's Government Knowledge Defense (which incredibly they claim to not be using!?), this 'meeting of minds' must occur **PRIOR** to submitted false claim. "On appeal, the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit reversed. The court determined that the time to test the falsity of a claim is the date when it is submitted. Accordingly, every one of the invoices prior to [when the contracting officer learned of the mislabeling] was false when made." Further, although the contracting officer has the authority to modify a contract, a retroactive modification under such circumstances was "void as against public policy." The court continued: "In such palming off as we have here we do not believe that the Congress ever intended that contracting officers should have the power to vitiate the False Claims statute."[United States v. Nat'l Wholesalers, 236 F.2d 944, 950 (9th Cir. 1956] "see\_THE GOVERNMENT KNOWLEDGE DEFENSE TO THE CIVIL FALSE CLAIMS ACT: A MISNOMER BY ANY OTHER NAME DOES NOT SOUND AS SWEET Author MICHAEL J. DAVIDSON 45 Idaho L. Rev. 41(att.). See *United States ex rel. Costner v. United States*, 317 F.3d 883, 887 (8th Cir. 2003) ("If the government knows and approves of the particulars of a claim for payment before that claim is presented . . . . " (emphasis added) (altercation omitted) (quoting United States ex rel. Becker v. Westinghouse Savannah River Co., 305 F.3d 542, 543 (7th Cir. 1999))); United States ex rel. Stone v. Rockwell Int'l Corp., 282

F.3d 787, 811 (10th Cir. 2002) ("The defendant . . . may be able to cast doubt on whether he 'knowingly' submitted a false claim by showing that the Government itself was already aware of the facts underlying the FCA claim when the allegedly fraudulent claim was submitted." (citing *United States ex rel. Butler v. Hughes Helicopters, Inc.*, 71 F.3d 321, 326-27 (9th Cir. 1995))); United States ex rel. Durcholz v. FKW, Inc., 189 F.3d 542, 545 (7th Cir. 1999)("before [the] claim is presented"); see also *United States ex rel. Laird v*. Lockheed Martin Eng'g & Sci. Servs. Co., 491 F.3d 254, 263 (5th Cir. 2007) ("before that claim is presented" (citing Durcholz, 189 F.3d at 545)); United States ex rel. Humphrey v. Franklin-Williamson Human Servs., Inc., 189 F. Supp. 2d 862, 867 (S.D. Ill. 2002) ("before [the] claim is presented") citing *Durcholz*, 189 F.3d. at 545)); *United States ex* rel. Maxwell v. Kerr-McGee Chem. Worldwide, LLC, No. 04-CV-01224-PSF-CBS, 2006 WL 2869515, at \*16 (D. Colo. Oct. 6, 2006); cf. United States v. Southland Mgmt. Corp., 326 F.3d 669, 682 n.9 (5th Cir. 2003) (en banc) (Jones, J., concurring) ("In principle, it would seem that the government's knowledge of a false claim would not be an effective defense . . . if the government's knowledge came 'too late in the process''' (quoting Durcholz, 189 F.3d at 544-45)); United States v. Shasta Servs., Inc., 440 F. Supp. 2d 1108, 1113-14 (E.D. Cal. 2006) (applying the defense to California's FCA). See also "Additionally, an FCA defendant should not benefit if someone from the government learns of the falsity and simply does nothing about it. The Seventh Circuit has held that mere governmental acquiescence is insufficient to sustain a government knowledge defense. The government must both know of, and approve, the particular claim **before it is submitted.** The opinions of other circuit courts appear to have adopted a similar standard. Unless that person is someone with the requisite level of authority and

approves or otherwise indicates to the defendant that its conduct is permissible, then the defendant's scienter remains unaffected. Additionally, "mere acquiescence would preclude FCA liability any time a government employee and a defendant were in cahoots."" Significantly, government employees, including procurement officials, lack the authority to waive fraudulent conduct."(236 F.2d 944 (9th Cir. 1956)).

### MR. ADGERSON

BRIAN BURKE, as an admitted whistle-blower, is quite saddened to have to inform the Court of Perjury (TITLE 18 PART I CHAPTER 79 § 1621) as well as likely Subornation of same (18 U.S.C.A. § 1622). Mr. Adgerson, to whom Relator would like to apologize for any misspelling of name in Complaint etc., has, unfortunately, availed himself of this unlawful practice. Mr. King has informed me this is his first case wherein a witness has performed this on a material issue. On July 5, 2007, date of stipulated to conversation with witness, the other Party to the conversation declared under Oath in Second Circuit Pleading "Plaintiff reported to Lloyd Rawls of GPO's Inspector General Office on July 5, 2007 that fraud was being committed by Record Press against the GPO, U.S. Attorney's Office, U.S. Taxpayers and, potentially, plaintiff. They are charging the government, et al., exactly TEN TIMES the correct amount for "collating & trimming" than allowed in said 2231-S contract. This was ascertained in conversation with Calvin Aderson[sic], FiscalManager at GPO."

The U.S. Attorney's Office, whether it investigated or not, chose not to dispute this Opposition, despite every reason to do so, thus stipulating to same. The Second Circuit granted Relator's Relief based on this Contemporaneous Account. Now years later, via recovered memory?, Witness Adgerson places before the Court an entirely different

account of our conversation. This is the Perjury, intended to Obstruct Justice (TITLE 18 PART I CHAPTER 73) for the People. This Perjury consisted mainly of two parts; First the Canard (lie) about Relator's misrepresentation, which is intended to defame and attack personal credibility and/or the People's case, Second the more harmful, and even more nonsensical, Lie/Perjury about what was said to Petitioner about the Running Rate (Per 10 Copies) application to the issue at hand, Line D. First the misrepresentation never happened, other than in the testilying of witness. Petitioner spoke to at least a dozen employees of GPO that day and there was no allegation of misrepresentation. Why Adgerson? Because he would not have given the information otherwise? Is it the GPO's position they only work for and serve 'Their' Contractors (Sullivan's Testimony), or who pays them, the People and Congress? No, because it did not happen. Counterclaim Defendant understands the Court would prefer not to rule on a "He said he said" that was not recorded. Petitioner's statement(s) on the Record since the day of the conversation have been consistent. More importantly, for triers of fact, Mr. Adgerson's version **COULD NOT HAVE HAPPENED.** There was absolutely NO WAY Movant could have gleaned information about the Running Rates application to Line D otherwise. Mr Adgerson was represented, by his boss, as the Chief Contract Person on this matter and was quite helpful. He had the Contract/RFP and Relator had the Invoices (albeit including GPO's 7% "Profit" on the False Claim, which presumably informs their credibility on deciding whether same occurred). As Plaintiff stated, repeatedly, under oath, and without ever seeing 2231-S, Mr Adgerson was asked why the "binding costs" were so high, when other costs were quite competitive. He stated emphatically that it was because the \$12.25 (he actually said \$12.50, an amount including GPO's 'tip', leading to this whistle-blower

using that figure in that days Opposition and FCA Complaint) "per 100 pages" applied to the Running Rate (10), i.e. per 1,000 pages. He was quite adamant & vociferous and stated how clear it is. He said that the words "Note: RUNNING RATE IS PER 10 COPIES" was in bold, capitalized, underlined and repeated. He stated clearly that Running Rate applied to all lines in paragraph II. Clearly, years later, in planning defense of instant FCA Case it was seen that this position by the senior Contract Supervisor/Manager would be fatal. Thus the obvious Subornation. Who Suborned Mr. Adgerson, admittedly, Relator can only guess at this time, but it it clearly a circumscribed group with incentive to do same. How was it done, we have either Gold or Lead, i.e. Consideration or Extortion/Threat. Was he forced to retire, was his pension threatened, or charges/discipline dangled? Speculation ripe for Investigation by appropriate Authorities without a Conflict of Interest. Affiant requests for a Referral by Court for appropriate entity to investigate Perjury, Subornation & Conspiracy to Perform same, Obstruction of Justice & Conspiracy to Perform same and Conspiracy to Defraud the United States. Affiant believe qualified hearsay exceptions would be controlling here under Fed. R. Ev. 801(d)(1) & (2)(B),(C)(E).

### **MR SULLIVAN**

Relator requests the Court ignore, Prospectively & Retrospectively, all

Testimony/Evidence by Mr. Sullivan related to any unsupported testimony regarding

"industry practice", Record Press's need for "profit", whether any specific price points

result in same or, in fact any testimony/evidence which would or could be admitted by an

Expert Witness, such as Mr. Gocial. Mr. Sullivan, however much time he worked at GPO

he was not certified, or asked to be considered as an expert witness. Even as a fact

witness, his testimony/evidence is Prejudicial and potentially incorrect (see above regarding Mr. Adgerson's Subornation). This defense witness acknowledged no prior discussion constituting "meeting of minds" or in fact any Ex Post Facto (to 2231-S/1272-S signing/bids) conversation regarding IFB 2231-S/1272-S and proper invoicing vis-à-vis Record Press. Affiant acknowledges it is "GPO"s, or at least Mr. Sullivan's, Testimony that Record Press invoiced the correct amount, or at least that 'his contractor' could use the money to go toward their profit, which he apparently prefers the government/Taxpayer guarantee.

### **PRIOR MEETING OF MINDS**

As to our affirmative evidence of no **PRIOR** "meeting of minds" we have Mr. Sullivan's testimony during February 14, 2011 Bench Trial and Mr. Wilmot's Deposition testimony. Please see Document 90 page 89 lines 10-13." Mr. King; Q. "Did -- had you discussed this interpretation [whether running rate applies BRIAN BURKE, as an admitted whistle-blower, is quite saddened to have to inform the Court of Perjury (TITLE 18 PART I CHAPTER 79 § 1621) as well as likely Subornation of same (18 U.S.C.A. § 1622). Mr. Adgerson, to whom Relator would like to apologize for any misspelling of name in Complaint etc., has, unfortunately, availed himself of this unlawful practice. Mr. King has informed me this is his first case wherein a witness has performed this on a material issue. On July 5, 2007, date of stipulated to conversation with witness, the other Party to the conversation declared under Oath in Second Circuit Pleading "Plaintiff reported to Lloyd Rawls of GPO's Inspector General Office on July 5, 2007 that fraud was being committed by Record Press against the GPO, U.S. Attorney's Office, U.S. Taxpayers and, potentially, plaintiff. They are charging the government, et al., exactly

TEN TIMES the correct amount for "collating & trimming" than allowed in said 2231-S contract. This was ascertained in conversation with Calvin Aderson[sic], FiscalManager at GPO."

The U.S. Attorney's Office, whether it investigated or not, chose not to dispute this Opposition, despite every reason to do so, thus stipulating to same. The Second Circuit granted Relator's Relief based on this Contemporaneous Account. Now years later, via recovered memory?, Witness Adgerson places before the Court an entirely different account of our conversation. This is the Perjury, intended to Obstruct Justice (TITLE 18 PART I CHAPTER 73) for the People. This Perjury consisted mainly of two parts; First the Canard (lie) about Relator's misrepresentation, which is intended to defame and attack personal credibility and/or the People's case, Second the more harmful, and even more nonsensical, Lie/Perjury about what was said to Petitioner about the Running Rate (Per 10 Copies) application to the issue at hand, Line D. First the misrepresentation never happened, other than in the testilying of witness. Petitioner spoke to at least a dozen employees of GPO that day and there was no allegation of misrepresentation. Why Adgerson? Because he would not have given the information otherwise? Is it the GPO's to line II(d)] with Mr. Wilmot or anyone with Record Press prior to this contract having been executed? [Mr. Sullivan] A. I have never met or had any discussions with Mr. Wilmot." Please see also Wilmot Deposition Page 75 line 9- page 77 from line 15 attached as Exhibit A (pages 71-91). "BY MR. KING: Q. Does the GPO and Record Press engage in any preliminary discourse regarding the definitions or meanings of any of the terms in the contract? A. [Mr. Wilmot] I have never seen that [emphasis in original] Q. [Mr. King] So Record Press does not, and the GPO does not discuss what any of this

means before it's awarded? ...... A. [Mr. Wilmot] I have never seen that. Page 76 line 14 BY MR. KING: Q. And when you speak with Mr. Fishken, do you discuss the meaning of any of these contracts? ....... THE WITNESS: [Mr. Wilmot] No. When I speak to Ira, it's generally on performance issues such as if a U.S. Attorney may have a particular issue on the – a job or so on and so forth, or the timeliness period. **Never on** contract terms [emphasis added]. The contracts I submitted by the GPO are unambiguous, period. And if there were any changes to a particular contract or something you do not understand, it is a written submission process. BY MR KING: Q. "After this case was filed, did you speak with him about this particular contract or about this particular case? .......... THE WITNESS: [Mr. Wilmot] Not at all. Can I add something for the record? Q. [Mr. King] Yes. Please. A. [Mr. Wilmot] Record Press's invoices are submitted to Washington, D.C. along with Philadelphia, GPO's office. Washington does not pay our invoices unless GPO in Philadelphia approves of them. So that means they must be in compliance before they are paid, so there is a dual auditing going on on our invoices."

Defendant appears to proceed under the erroneous assumption that if the false claim is paid it becomes legitimate. This logic appears to be shared by Defendant's Counsel. If that were true, the False Claims Act would be mooted. There was no evidence of any "auditing" by the Government prior to case unsealing. The only "Auditor" to testify was Mr. Gocial. See SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE, FALSE CLAIMS AMENDMENTS ACT OF 1986, S. REP. NO. 99-345, at 7 (1986), reprinted in 1986 U.S.C.C.A.N. 5266, 5272 ("But the Committee does believe the civil False Claims Act should recognize that those doing business with the Government have an obligation to

make a limited inquiry to ensure the claims they submit are accurate.") see also Crane Helicopter Servs., Inc. v. United States, 45 Fed. Cl. 410, 433 (1999) ("[The FCA's knowing standard was designed to address] 'the 'ostrich-like' refusal to learn of information which an individual, in the exercise of prudent judgment, had reason to know" and to reach "those who ignore obvious warning signs.") (citation omitted). We agree with Defendant that the relevant contract is unambiguous. See the Affidavit of the (only) expert witness, Mr. Gocial, page 4:

- (1) Page 12 of 15, Section 4 Schedule of Prices, refers to "fractional parts of 10 will be prorated" which supports our position that where a running rate of 10 copies is referenced that rates charged are per 10 copies. (Exhibit B Doc. 67)
- (2) Page 14 of 15, Section 4, II Complete Product, specifically states "Note: Running rate is per 10 copies" which covers parts (a), (b), (c), and (d). This further supports our position that the rates charged in this section are for every 10 copies rather than for each copy. (Exhibit C Doc. 67)

### ACTUAL VICTIM

As to the next quote, "the alleged victim, through the agency official who appeared in Plaintiff's case-in-chief, testified there was no fraud". To start, we have the sharpest possible disagreement regarding "the alleged victim" or the actual victim. Qui tam pro domino rege quam pro se ipso in hac parte sequitur, (who as much for [our] lord the king as for himself in this action pursues), a.k.a. False Claims Act, 31 U.S.C. §§ 3729–3733, suing in the name of the King (or State etc.) is an old law which by definition implies that Contracting Officers and/or those tasked with paying claims have failed to perform their fiduciary responsibility. Thus this necessity to grant cause of action to individual citizens who have evidence of false claims. Affiant is a Shop Steward of 8 years, Safety Representative, and Civil Servant for 12 ½ years. I am tasked as a Shop Steward with defending fellow Civil Servants accused of wrongdoing. Occasionally he or she commits

an error due to overwork, fatigue, lack of information, or lack of training, etc.. The assumption regarding said error is that a natural tendency to justify, cover-up or otherwise defend error is a result of inherent bias against being so confronted (with error). The testimony, or evidence is considered self-serving and is not limited to 'lower' titles. So we have this "alleged victim". So what is a 'victim'? One who is harmed? If by accusing an individual, or an agency, of failing to perform fiduciary responsibility they become a 'victim' than GPO is a victim. If the accusation, or evidence, does not confer victimhood then GPO is not a 'victim'. The court was correct in conferring the title "Alleged Victim" upon the GPO. The fact that the GPO was not deprived of monies by the instant False Claims is not disputed. In fact, it is not disputed that the GPO 'profited' off of said claims due to its own 7% overhead charge on same. This fact is used to hammer and defame Relator!! The actual victim, as a matter of law (statute), is the People (taxpayers) of the United States, who paid these claims, admittedly plus the GPO's 7% 'cut'. Defendant has a right to dislike the Federal False Claims Act, and it admittedly is not meant to serve their interest as a Contractor, but the taxpayer requires an advocate. Numerous laws have been passed and signed that protect us taxpayers from corrupt, indolent or indifferent Contracting Officers that fail to perform their 'honest services' and attempt to cover up same. This is called a Moral Hazard when one's financial or other interests lie in one direction and yet are implied to lie in its apostate. GPO would not recover any monies from its admitted friend Record Press, damages would be returned to the General Fund. Would the GPO be on the hook for the  $$513,793.91 \times .07(\%) = $35,965.57$ ? An interesting conundrum, but not promising to elicit testimony contrary to interest. The Courts reliance on this Morally Hazardous,

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biased Testimony from the GPO's 30(b)6 witness is what we are requesting (see Motion for Amended Judgment) be revisited as contrary to the interest of justice. See also *United* States v. United Techs. Corp., No. 5:92-CV-375 (EBB), 1996 WL 653620, at \*2 (D. Conn. Oct. 11, 1996) ("The statute's restriction on the authority of agency heads should be read as encompassing their subordinates."); cf. Contract Disputes Act of 1978, S. REP. NO. 95-1118, at 19 (1978), as reprinted in 1978 U.S.C.C.A.N. 5235, 5253 ("[I]t is not the intent of this section to authorize Agency heads, contracting officers, or agency boards to settle or compromise claims independent of their legal or contractual merits . . . ."). Nat'l Wholesalers, 236 F.2d at 950; see also United States ex rel. McCray Sanitation Serv. v. Midwest Container Co., 7 F.3d 1046, at \*2 (10th Cir. 1993) (unpublished table decision) ("[Contracting agency cannot] 'ratify' any previous fraud by [contractor]."). Significantly, government employees, including procurement officials, lack the authority to waive fraudulent conduct. Accordingly, the FCA is violated when a contractor submits a false claim even when the contractor informs the government of the claim's falsity before submission. Further, once false claims are received, a contracting officer may not modify the contract, or take other action, to waive past false claims. The Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) also contains express limitations on contracting officer authority when a claim is suspected to be false or tainted by fraud. Pursuant to FAR 33.210(b), (the FAR is codified in Title 48 of the United States Code of Federal Regulations. It is issued pursuant to the Office of Federal Procurement Policy Act of 1974 (Pub. L. 93-400 and Title 41 of the United States Code), Chapter 7.) the contracting officer has no authority to settle, compromise, pay or adjust "any claim involving fraud." Similarly, section 605(a) of the Contract Disputes Act (41 U.S.C. § 605) removes any

Press.

authority from the head of an agency "to settle, compromise, pay, or otherwise adjust any claim involving fraud." This statutory restriction on agency heads extends downward to subordinate agency procurement officials." MICHAEL J. DAVIDSON, 45 Idaho L. Rev. 41(att.).

### SPREADSHEET, RP000069, EXPLANATION

Regarding "Spreadsheets". While clearly a 'statement against interest' by Record

it was not explicitly made a part of the 2231-S/1272-S Contract, whether attached or not, or produced later. Non-movant clearly proffers these documents as Dispositive, and they may very well be correct. Defendant, like the Wizard behind the curtain, or the naked Emperor, would prefer the Court view the section of the document(s) they deem important. The Court must instead, in order to obtain the Truth (Veritas) Justice and Remedy for the abused Taxpayer, rely on and deconstruct the relevant parts of the 'spreadsheets'. It is not disputed that Respondent has attempted to parse the most

irrelevant part(s) of these documents and has run panicking from the actual numbers in said exhibits. Defendant clearly state that because the relevant line margins undisputed, say, respectively, IIa COMPLETE COVER PER 10 COPIES; IIb TEXT PER PAGE PER 10 COPIES and skipping, for now IIc,; IId COLLATING, TRIMMING TO SIZE AND BINDING PER 100 PAGE, the case is over. Slamdunk. Problem. The actual numbers do not agree with Defendant's theory. As Mr. Wilmot basically eschewed and distanced himself and his firm from this 'dispositive' document in his Deposition and Relator doesn't blame him, and only acknowledged "reviewing" same on the stand, presumably ex post facto and on advise of Counsel, Relator would request using otherwise irrelevant testimony by Mr. Sullivan, the only individual with apparent

knowledge about same. Mr. Sullivan was asked about the highly relevant "BASIS OF AWARD". These numbers came right out of the 2231-S/1272-S contract. Witness claimed these numbers derived from a former contract and are used, very importantly, to compare various bids and find lowest competent bidder, in the interest of the Taxpayer/People, as required. Excellent, and fully within their Fiduciary duty to us Taxpayers. But there's that little problem within this 'dispositive' document. The numbers do not come within magnitudes of agreeing with Defendant's, or for that matter, Mr. Sullivan's, spin on what the Contract 'actually' says. It may disappoint the Court to have to state that this 'best' document which s allegedly exculpatory for Defendant also bars Relator's version. An assumption was made by Relator & Mr. Adgerson(pre Perjury) and Murphy Anderson LLP and Mr. King and Mr. Gocial that Record Press is at least allowed to charge something for line IId incases such as the admitted invoices. According to the 'dispositive' 'spreadsheet' Mr. Sullivan, and presumably Defendant's Counsel, support, this is incorrect. The argument as to whether 'PER10 COPIES' RUNNING RATE apply to line IId maybe all but moot and the Court maybe ruling on the incorrect issue. Instead, according to the 'spreadsheet'/'dispositive' Exhibit and the Contract the issue is should Record Press be invoicing at all under II(d) in circumstances such as Burke v. Evans. Relator contends that Defendant acted with intent, but nevertheless, this hurdle is not required for FCA. Relator requests only this 'dispositive' document make sense, and it does. Honing in on the three most relevant lines, we start with II(a). COMPLETE COVER PER 10 COPIES. and the "BASIS OF AWARD" 1327, from the Contract. Mr. Sullivan suggested we multiply 1327 times "PER 10 COPIES", i.e 13,270 books. Then we have Record Press's Bid/Offerof \$6.00 per ten rap-around covers and the

entirely correct amount, under both parties theories, of \$7,962.00. Excellent. Next II(b) we have and TEXT PER PAGE PER 10 COPIES with a "BASIS OF AWARD" of 165,996, i.e. 1,659,960 pages. and the Bid/Offer of \$.35. PER 10 COPIES to get \$58,098.60. Entirely correct and consistent with all parties theories. As II(c) was not part of the admitted invoices, we will skip for now. Saving the best for last we have the penultimate line, II(d) COLLATING, TRIMMING TO SIZE AND BINDING PER 100 PAGES. "BASIS OF AWARD" is 14? and from the 2231-S/1272-S Contract. Mr. Sullivan stated, under oath, that these are actual numbers from a previous contract, that they are used to find the lowest cost competent bidder, and further that they should be and were? used to direct successful bidders as to correct billing & invoice practice, in order to presumably conform with the False Claims Act and not 'Overbill'. Upon questioning by Mr. King, Mr. Sullivan stated this "BASIS OF AWARD" of 14/sic/ should be multiplied by the stated "PER 100 PAGES" in order to arrive at 1400 pages?[sic]. This number would be consistent with their theory. Ours would be 14,000 pages/sic/. Regardless, let's move on. Multiplying 1400 (their theory) by \$12.25 and dividing(again) by PER 100 PAGES equals the correct \$171.50. With Relator's theory, you would multiply 14 by 1,000 (i.e. PER 10 COPIES, PER 100 PAGES=1,000) and by the admitted accepted bid/offer of \$12.25 per? divided again by 1,000 to equal 171.50. In other words, both theories result in an equality, i.e. correct answer. If Relator were to be so bold as to supply implied algebraic definition, we have for IId 14x pages X \$12.25 divided by x = \$171.50. The problem is that x can be either 100(defendant's position) or 1,000(Relators/Taxpayers) and we have gotten no closer to the Truth(Veritas), or assisting the Court in deciding Case. So what is x, 100 or 1,000? Well, let's compare to

the above lines for some Truth, as presumably the number of bindings should conform to the number of books. We have, as stipulated to, 13,270 books. 14,000 comes a lot closer to 13,270 than 1,400, but admittedly not identical. A rounding error perhaps, or were there some additional bindings in another category? Problem, Mr. Sullivan stated, under oath that the 1,400 was pages? and not books, which according to lines IIa & IIb average 125 pages for both Appendices and Briefs. Instead, according to agreement, we have 1,659,960 pages, an entirely reasonable number. How do we fit 1400 bound pages into 1,659,960 pages and 13,270 books, or for that matter 14,000 pages. We cannot. Occam's Razor (i.e. the simplest explanation that explains all the facts) suggests our answer. IId has nothing to do with IIa or IIb. Record Press is allowed to bill for/through line IIa and IIb **OR** IId but not both. Let us go back to the 2231-S/1272-S contract and page 6 paragraph 8 which states 'Occasionally the Government will supply preprinted 8-1/2 x 11" pages which the contractor will be required to collate, typeset a cover trim to finished size and bind. "This is what IId is for, and not the usual order created from PDF or CD, if the 'spreadsheets' are correct. They were proffered by defense and are a statement against interest. Of course, under the only rational interpretation of the 'spreadsheet' Record Press was not allowed to charge the Government at all in the vast majority of invoices. In our original theory in Complaint, Defendant charged 10 times too much for line IId but were certainly allowed to bill something. Either way, they charged the People/Taxpayer at least \$500,000 too much over the non-statutorily limited time span for IId. The 'overbilling' is just slightly larger under this axiom conforming with both the 'spreadsheet'(s), i.e. previous billing practice, and 2231-S/1272-S.

Being so bold as to anticipate Defendant's likely and most logical defense, and hoping

the court does not view this as a Straw Man, let us throw out all the numbers on line 11d, and assume Contractor is allowed to charge on line IId for all "TEXT PER PAGE", as is now Record Press practice. If we plug in the numbers on lines IIa &IIb, which appear entirely correct and logical, into the now blank IId, we get a magnitude of difference in this "Old Bid/bill/contract/spreadsheet". Back to the "new" line IId we have a "BASIS OF AWARD" of either 1,659x(Relator version) or 16,599x(Defendant's)pages. First, with 16599.6x wherein x is 1,000(PER 10 COPIES X PER 100 PAGES) times 12.25 and divided again by 1,000= \$20,334.5. With Defendant's Straw Man? we have \$203,349.51. This "correct" and consistent number, if we accept record press's position that they are allowed to charge under IIa, IIb & IId simultaneously would more than double Record Press's Bid/Invoice/Payment, if the winning bider/Contractor. But they would lose as their bid would be substantially higher. Other potential contractors bid less than half Record Press's \$12.25 per 1,000 or per 100 pages. Two bid \$5.00 and one bid \$6.50. Another contractor would have won the bid. Thus, under any possible theory they are either violating the FCA or not the Contractor.

### **RELATOR'S EVIDENCE**

Now as to the next quote from decision, "Plaintiff offered no evidence to the contrary" (Id. (emphasis added))". The evidence submitted by Relator is extensive and dispositive, or should be, for Plaintiff's case and include all court papers, "Expert Report", the IFB 2231-S/1272-S, testimony, and the 'spreadsheets' submitted by GPO/Record Press, Inc. This case cannot be simpler, Record Press billed the United States at least 10 times too much for Collating, Trimming to Size and Binding briefs and appendixes. Everything else is smoke and mirrors. Mr. Adgerson told Relator on July 5,

2007 that Record Press was charging 10 times too much for same by not applying clearly written "Note: Running rate is per 10 copies" and "RUNNING PER 10 COPIES" above line II(d). His 'battlefield' conversion is perjury, as previously stated in Counterclaim Defendant's Omnibus Motion(Dct. 70), etc. It is certainly acknowledged that Relator's "beliefs" and "subjective concern" are far from dispositive and admittedly legally biased in the interest of the People. Relator's 'opinion/subjective concern' means nothing, the 'contract' means everything. This is our gravamen. Relator's 'opinion' is identical to that of the young boy who stated that "The Emperor has no clothes", the difference being, I, unlike the boy, will be forced to work to the age of 85 or more operating a train in order to pay Record Press for the admitted crime of attempting Remedy for the United States in recovering damages as a Whistleblower. We believe the Defendant has no basis for Recovery, as a matter of fact and law. It is in fact Counterclaim Defendant with the strongest argument for Fees and Expenses for Counterclaim that Defendant demanded the Court dismiss after service of Omnibus Motion to Dismiss/For Summary Judgment. Please see arguments in the admittedly 'mooted' papers submitted by Counterclaim Defendant (Dcts. 70, 74, 76, 77, 82, 85). Counterclaim Defendant has not submitted Motion for Fees under any rule due to this pending Motion for Amended Judgment and the right for Defendant to reinitiate Counterclaim, which, as predicted, they have apparently done within this Motion for Attorney Fees and Expenses. Can it be that Defendant is actually seeking Fees & Expenses for their own 5 year frivolous and vexatious Dismissed Counterclaim? We also request any fees or expenses incurred investigating Relator, Mr. King, Mr. Hanna, subpoenaed witness, etc. be quashed. Defendant mentions the Rule 11 Motion filed by

pro se Plaintiff in Burke v. Evans but forgot to mention their own Rule 11 Motion in their 32 page soliloquy(dct. 94-main). Why is that? **Because Defendant lost**. Yet they seek payment from Relator for same. Defendant mentions one of their defeated Motion(s) for Summary Judgment only to state on page 22 "More than half of Record Press's fees were incurred after Record Press filed its June 24, 2010 motion for summary judgment." Their implied logic is that United States ex rel. Brian Burke should have performed what Record Press did after Counterclaim Defendant's own Motion for Summary Judgment, a Fed. R. Civ. P. 41(a)(2) Motion for Voluntary Dismissal. Perhaps Defendant could inform the Court and Relator when this was done in the history of Jurisprudence after WINNING same Summary Judgment motion. It is not clear how much Record Press spent after losing their infinitely more relevant Rule 11 Motion (as juxtaposed to Burke's Rule 11 Motion in another case) or how much was spent in losing three dispositive motions but clearly they want Relator to pay for same. Defendant, by Counsel, as always, seeks to have their cake and eat it too. While they claim to be of one mind with an Order they admittedly prevailed on (Relator is requesting Amended Judgment by this Motion, an action that generally stays Motion for Fees and Tolling on time to file Notice of Appeal, i.e. this Motion is premature at best) they are forcing this Court to rewrite same Decision. This Court studiously and purposely, after its 2 1/4 year Deliberation, chose not to use the words "frivolous' or "vexatious" in its Decision/Order. That time for the Court to perform its lawful function is also being taxed to Relator in Defendant's suggestion Plaintiff deliberately dragged out or prolonged proceedings. Record Press was not clear where or in what irrelevant case a Court has used the word "frivolous" or for that matter "vexatious" but base their incorrect opinion on the fact that Brian Burke *pro se* lost. In

Document 90, PM Transcript of Bench Trial, page 41 lines 8-14 "......but that the Court would find no relevance or probative value, with all due respect to other judges, in a mere determination that there was insufficient evidence.. MR. O'BRIEN: Understood, Your Honor. THE COURT:---that do not have any bearing upon Mr. Burke's credibility. Mr. O'BRIEN: No, I understand, Your Honor." This Ruling was 'understood' but not followed. On pages 45, 46 of same Document 90 Lines 25-5 MR. KING: "I would point out that the Rule 11 motion has been filed accusing Mr. Burke of filing frivolously; that motion had already been decided and overruled. It seems like this is another opportunity to try to bring up whether or not that motion should be granted, when it's already been denied." Highly prescient. Here we are again.

### BETWEEN SCYLLA AND CHARYBDIS

We are not attempting to defame Mr. Sullivan, or for that matter Mr. Wilmot. We are aware both these gentlemen were given a Hobson's Choice. In Mr. Sullivan's case he was clearly taxed with covering-up GPO's faults by his superior, as an admitted lifelong employee. The previous employee stuck with this unrewarding task chose to retire instead (Doc. 90 pg. 63). Mr. Sullivan was apparently promoted for his yeoman work on this case. So what would be the outcome if Mr. Sullivan testified for example "a clear reading of the contract for program 2231-S shows Record Press has been billing 10 times too much for collating trimming to size and binding government briefs and appendices." We believe he would have been fired or demoted or transferred or otherwise retaliated against. It is clear that GPO's official position has been formed on the instant case prior to Mr. Sullivan's dilemma(id. pg. 63). Were he to 'whistleblow' prior to testimony he would simply have been replaced as 30(b)6 witness and retaliated against. Were he to do

as former employee Mr. Adgerson and simply 'flip the script', but in this case against the interest of his boss, on the Stand, we can only imagine the outcome. While Relator would certainly welcome any testimony in the interest of the People, this heroism is not required to enforce the False Claims Act. Now we have Mr. Wilmot. The 'false claims' (the word fraud has been employed, but see *United States ex rel. Quirk v. Madonna Towers, Inc.*, 278 F.3d 765, 767 (8th Cir. 2002) ("No proof of specific intent to defraud the government is required." (citing 31 U.S.C. § 3729(b))).) clearly started before Mr. Wilmot's tenure at Record Press, Inc.. So what was, or is, Mr. Wilmot to do when he noticed the instant false claims? Whistleblow on his own company? Would he ever be hired again? Unknown. It is not required that contractor whistleblow on itself for FCA to be enforced, or for that matter an employee of 'allegedly' defrauded agency do the same. Of course, we have an agency that itself was not defrauded but instead pocketed 7% on the false claims, it was the United States treasury that was defrauded. If it is required that a Relator have the 'allegedly', or actually, defrauded agency testify in their behalf or interest we clearly have not surmounted that hurdle and the case is deservedly Dismissed. This hurdle is not required. It does not exist. We acknowledge case law wherein a **PRIOR** 'meeting of minds' may mitigate or defend against a False Claim Action, but, as shown, this did not occur within instant case. Full stop. As my admittedly sexist ancestor informed me well before my birth "The only thing necessary for evil to triumph is for good men to do nothing" (Edmond Burke). The United States is \$15 Trillion in debt and requires someone to advance it's fiduciary interest, thus we have the False Claims Act. We respectfully request the Court not hamstring, cripple, 'moot', restrict, or end same act. We respectfully request that the Court not require the gentlemen, Mr. Sullivan or Mr.

Wilmot, to act contrary to interest. Upton Sinclair "It is difficult to get a man to understand something, when his salary depends on his not understanding it".

### **RP000069 AND IFB FOR PROGRAM 2231-S/1272-S**

Now again to the core of the case. In Defendant's Document 94 page 12 we have a small piece of a document both parties believe is Dispositive. There was testimony that RP000069, or was it the 'page 1 of 1', was attached to the Request For Bids for Program 2231-S and/or 1272-S. It is agreed that Relator, in the Complaint, relied upon the 'four corners' of what became the 'contract' (IFP with Record Press's winning bids (albeit with GPO's 7% 'profit')). There does not appear to be any evidence, or testimony, other than that a plain reading of said contract can only lead to the conclusion that Record Press was charging the United States 10 times too much for line II(D) COLLATING, TRIMMING TO SIZE AND BINDING, due to ignoring "Note: Running rate is per 10 copies" and "RUNNING PER 10 COPIES" written clearly above lines (a), (b), (c), and (d). Defendant acknowledges this 'running rate' applies to, and they appeared to bill correctly, lines (a), and (b). So why does it not apply to line (d)? Witnesses Sullivan and Wilmot claim to believe this is obvious, without explanation. It is obvious. A clear, and only possible, reading and application of IFB 2231-S/1272-S would apply 'running rate' to COLLATING, TRIMMING TO SIZE AND BINDING. What the four corners of the contract could be more clear on is whether or not contractor should be charging at all for a particular book under line II(d). We assumed that Record Press, or another winning contractor, was allowed to charge \$12.25, (or even our initial \$12.50), per 10 copies per 100 pages for programs 2231-S/1272-S, for all books. Defendant's only actual written evidence submitted to the contrary, RP000069 and/or similar 'page 1 of 1' (attached)

admittedly show something different. While the 'running rate' applies to lines (c) and (d) (see Relator's Opposition to Defendant's Motion for Attorney's fess and Expenses Affidavit), it is absolutely dispositive, legally conclusive and crystal clear on our initial assumption. With apologies to the Court, we were wrong, mea culpa. That is to say, and again Defendant submitted these documents as dispositive (including within instant motion (Dct. 94 pg. 12)), Record Press is not to charge AT ALL for COLLATING, TRIMMING TO SIZE AND BINDING, other than for delivered pre-printed documents (see IFB 2231-S page 6 paragraph 8 "Occasionally the Government will supply preprinted 8-1/2 x 11" pages which the contractor will be required to collate, typeset a cover trim to finished size and bind."), or petitions for a writ of certiorari, which require 'Pressure Sensitive Cover Stock' and substantial trimming. For this conclusion, the only possible, we go back to those 'spreadsheets' (RP00069 and 'page 1 of 1' both attached). Mr. Lomas, as during the trial, etc., admittedly in order to make his case, concentrated on the left side margins of said document(s) and purposely chose, and continues to chose to, demand the Court view and decide based only upon that section. Lets call it the face and hands of the spreadsheet. The problem is that for parties, or the Court, to determine whether or not this 'emperor' has clothes, we must view THE WHOLE DOCUMENT, INCLUDING THE BODY! As Expert Witness Mr. Gocial could explain much better than myself, Relator's accounting background is more modest, the margin of any spreadsheet is used only to explain and assist in analyzing the actual data to the right of the margin. RECORD PRESS CONTINUES TO SHOW NO DATA WITHIN THESE DOCUMENTS. Why? Because they would lose. Again full stop. Please see Relator's Affidavit attached to our Motion for Amended Judgment, in order to

not be repetitive. We have alleged Bid-Rigging, again see Relator's Motion for Amended Judgment Affidavit attached.

### JURISDICTIONAL BAR

As previously stated, we believe opinions on the relevant contract's interpretation by Mr. Sullivan, or for that matter Mr. Adgerson, should be discounted not just for the inherent bias, but as a matter of Jurisdiction. Mr. Sullivan, Government Printing Office's 30(b)(6) witness, was required to testify, for Relator's prima facie, to the facts that Record Press was a winning Contractor for the United States, that they (otherwise) Performed, that the Claims at issue were paid, that they are an ongoing Contractor, etc... The Jurisdictional Bar, which was inadvertently breached, is in regard to the GPO witness's testimony as to the Falsity of the Claims itself being accepted by Court as Dispositive, or at all. We believe they are, or were, testifying on behalf of the Agency Head and/or as Contracting Officers. Please see again "In such palming off as we have here we do not believe that the Congress ever intended that contracting officers should have the power to vitiate the False Claims statute." [United States v. Nat'l Wholesalers, 236 F.2d 944, 950 (9th Cir. 1956]" and section 605(a) of the Contract Disputes Act, which removes any authority from the head of an agency "to settle, compromise, pay, or otherwise adjust any claim involving fraud." Please see also again Federal Acquisition Regulation 33.210(b), wherein the contracting officer has no authority to settle, compromise, pay or adjust "any claim involving fraud." These Statues appear to bar any Court Jurisdictionally from reliance on Agency Head or Procurement or Contracting Officers and Jurisdictionally proscribe their opining on whether any particular claim was false. If a Court were to rely on testimony by agency heads and/or subordinates, in order to decide falsity these Statutes (Black Letter Law) would be rendered void. We believe this is not the intent of the Court. There is certainly the acknowledged exception wherein a PREVIOUS 'meeting of the minds' (between Contractor and Contractee), as per case law quoted above, is potentially exculpatory evidence against falsity. In the instant case there was not a prior 'meeting of the minds' as sworn testimony and Deposition show (see above). This Court does appear to prefer some testimony as to what the proper contract interpretation should be. Relator's and Defendant's opinion as to falsity were reasonably construed as containing a legal bias, and we clearly request that GPO witnesses testimony as to falsity be discounted Jurisdictionally and for Bias. Record Press pretends to feign shock as to Relator challenging the veracity of the GPO witnesses and clearly believe, or want to believe, that GPO officers are allowed to resolve a false claim ex post facto without a prior meeting of minds. They cannot. We know what Congress intended with the above Statutes; to remove Agency employees Jurisdictionally from resolving False Claims. Why? Because they (Congress) believe the contrary would allow a Moral Hazard. Mr. Sullivan is certainly allowed his opinion on any subject, via the 1<sup>st</sup> Amendment, but by Statue and Case law it cannot be used to resolve falsity. We ask, in order to assist the Court and referencing this pending Motion for Amended Judgment, that Expert Witness Mr. Gocial be allowed to testify as to proper contract interpretation and the implications of the 'spreadsheets'. The alternative, that the Court decide, within Amended Judgment, on the 'four corners' of the IFB program 2231-S/1272-S and our explanation of the **whole** spreadsheet (RP00069, ex.2), which is the only explanation in the Record.

It is acknowledged that Defendant Record Press holds, and has held Contractor status as winning bidder on contract 2231-S with the Government Printing Office to print Briefs & Appendix for SDNY US Attorney's Office. It is agreed that Record Press is charging the correct amount on the line II(b) "Text Per Page" "Per 10 Copies" \$.35 and II(a) "Complete Cover" "Per 10 Copies" \$6.00. We have at issue, whether, within four corners of the contract, the line(s) RUNNING RATE PER 10 COPIES apply to line II(d) Collating, trimming to size and binding per 100 pages \$ 12.25. We now, in addition, have documents, the spreadsheets, which indicate Record Press, or any other winning contractor, should not be charging on line II(d) at all, other than in rare circumstances, such as preprinted documents or writs of certiorari, which require 'Pressure Sensitive Stock' and substantial trimming. Mr. Gocial's attached Expert Report is included as a Material Statement of Facts and is Subsumed within instant Statement Of Material Facts by designation. A plain reading of the four corners of contact 2231-S leads one to conclude that winning contractor must charge the People no more than \$12.25 per 10 Running Rate Copies Per 100 Pages, i.e. per 1000 pages for relevant line II(d). Record Press chose to ignore clear NOTE: RUNNING RATE IS PER 10 COPIES and again above all bid lines in section II "Running Per 10 Copies"

## FOR ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATION

Upon Information & Belief, Relator is informed that Record Press has been involved in Bid-Rigging. This is a violation of the Sherman Antitrust Act, 2/30/1890, ch. 647, 26 Stat. 209, 15 U.S.C. § 1–7 See *att.*. The Conspiratorial parties, atypically, were not otherwise lawfully competing printers, but Record Press and one or more employees, or

former employees, of G.P.O.. Petitioner offers the following evidence. Start with IFB 2231-S/1272-S. As Stipulated, one party contends the relevant line IId should be read as "Per 10 Copies, Per 100 Pages", and the other "Per Copy, Per 100 Pages". Why not write that? Is it to create Plausible Deniability? We shall see. Record Press contends it has been contracting with GPO for 30 years and in existence for 65, to which Petitioner Stipulates. In this time a Company and/or its Officers would presumably make many friends. Not a crime. Defendant acknowledges bidding on 2231-S and for years at questions, winning same. There could be no Overcharge/False Claim/Fraud without winning same. How to do so? Craft, or have crafted, a contract to "fit your needs" as potential Contractor. You want to make an unnatural rate of return, a.k.a. 'profit', but still win bid. How? Create, or have drafter create, a 'special gimmick' that only you and GPO insider(s) know(s). Virtually an act of genius, this 2231-S/1272-S attempts the all but impossible. To dissuade legitimate bidders from correctly bidding their interest, due to this secret or trick, and losing the bid. Of course us taxpayers also lose out. Record Press won its bid by unlawful insider knowledge and/or conspiracy. We have on the II(d) line the now famous "Basis of Award" of 14/sic]. Defendant, with its insider knowledge, bids more than double the other bidders on this, to other bidders trivial line. On the 'major' lines II(a) & II(b) it bids competitively. As Record Press acknowledged under Oath, their "Profit" existed on that line only with their bid. If the other bidders had the "secret' of the bid, that the vast majority of the revenue would ensue on that line (if II(d) is per 100 pages but not per 10 copies per 100 pages AND they are allowed by their insider friends to charge II(d) for magnitudes greater pages & books than stated in RFP) they would bid appropriately, i.e. like Record Press. Another bidder who divined the scam would bid

even higher on line II(d), why not \$15 or \$20, and only slightly lower on lines II(a) & II(b) such as \$.32 per ten pages text per page. They would beat Defendant and Conspirator(s) at their own game. That winning bidder would have even more "Profit" and win the rigged bid. Didn't happen because the other bidders are not in on the scam. Why share when you can keep all the ill gotten gains for yourself? It's nice to have friends. Record Press charged GPO, who charged DOJ, i.e. current and future Taxpayers, \$70 per binding for a book of 283 'leaves' (566 double sided pages). Binding and pages had the appearance of a smallish phone book. If The Yellow Pages were charged \$70 for a binding that cost \$.01 of glue, or less, they would go broke. If the People were charged \$12.25 per book per 100 pages for binding alone for printing the Federal Budget the United States would go (more) broke. Of course, there was not one scintilla even one other GPO printer, or the GPO itself, ever charged this 'Kings Ransom' for binding glue, which should be deemed inculpatory. On July 5, 2007, Relator contacted FedEx Kinko's, whom the SDNY US Attorney's Office has a contract with, and asked what they charge for 'perfect' binding. They quoted a price of \$4 per book for small orders and up to 50% off (\$2) for larger orders, for any number of pages. They charge \$.07 'text per page' for small orders with up to 50% off for large (\$.035 same as Record Press).

## MITIGATION

So both parties appear to acknowledge that Record Press cannot pay the damages required under 31 USC § 3729, what would be the outcome if they had lost, or were to lose? We do not know. Would the United States (receiving 70-85% of recovery) own Record Press? Does it want to? Maybe not. Is that a fact the courts have, or this Court will, take into account? Relator affirms that lack of ability to pay damages/fines under 31 USC § 3729 should not mitigate falsity. As to 'small, employee-owned' (id. pg. 11), we are informed that employees of Record Press receive some of their pay in stock, but we are unclear whether any stock has ever been distributed to or voted by same, or any earnings have been distributed, or what class of stock is involved (see Wilmot Deposition). As to 'small' maybe, there are different standards. We again request, or request clarification, as to whether Record Press intends the Court see this, and 'employee-ownership', as a potential mitigation. We request an Amended Judgment to allow this court to overturn or revise what we consider to be a precedent that will rend the civil Federal False Claims Act. Mr. Lomas, in his Memorandum of Points and Authorities uses 'Wilmot Deposition' to make their *prima facie* case for fee shifting, (Dct. 94-main, pg.11) "Ex. 1, Transcript of Deposition of Hugh Wilmot, Jr. ("Wilmot Dep. Tr.") 6:17-7:3.)". We agree that Mr. Wilmot is the sole decision maker regarding contract interpretation for Record Press since the initiation of his presidency. We acknowledge the fraud (actually 'false claims') started prior to said tenure, and Mr. Wilmot is perhaps underpaid to have to deal with his inherited 'rock and a hard place', but again request clarification as to whether this fact is or will be considered mitigation. Unfair maybe, but we must enforce the False Claims Act to deny companies large and, yes, small from unlawfully grabbing tax-payer monies. Perhaps Congress could amend the law to make the fines affordable, but that arguably has not been their intent. Mr. Wilmot stated clearly under oath that there was never any meeting of minds regarding contract terms, no discussion period. Perhaps he believed (via Counsel?<sup>1</sup>) we were required to prove intent?

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> 'Though he had no basis for it, Burke alleged that Record Press had defrauded – *knowingly lied* – to the United States government.'(dct. 94-main, pg. 29)

This is not the case, as shown previously. So we have the Contract. The Contract shows that the winning contractor for IFB program 2231-S/1272-S must apply 'running rate' to 'collating, trimming to size and binding'. Simple. Record Press has succeeded in muddying the waters (with all due respect to America's greatest musician, McKinley Morganfield) and temporarily out-lawyering us. Mr. Lomas, and Record Press, have succeeded in confusing the court through half-truths, prestidigitation, willful misstatements, misdirection and obfuscation, as shown. Mr. Lomas & co. forgot about the Motion In Limine, which they lost (Dct. 59, filed 12/16/2010, Terminated 02/03/2011) thus allowing Relator to speak as to contract interpretation at Trial. This appears to have been overlooked within June 12, 2013 Memorandum and Order and instant motion. As to their defeated motion, "Mr. Burke, who is not offered as an expert, may not offer any opinion testimony concerning the interpretation of any Record Press-GPO contract." (Dct. #59 pg.3). This, of course, holds true for Mr. Sullivan, not offered as an expert. Have your cake and eat it too. So in the instant case and June 12, 2013 Memorandum & Order we have a sea change in the definition of 'meeting of minds', which we believe was not the courts intent. The People are clearly requesting an Amended Judgment to 'un-muddy' the waters and restore the rights of the United States and the jurisdiction of the Federal False Claims Act. McKenna Long & Aldridge LLP, renowned litigators against the FCA (See dct.#94-1,pg.1, etc.) have achieved an overwhelming victory by prevailing at all, however temporarily, given their inability to retain even one expert witness to testify on their behalf<sup>2</sup>, their loss on four or more

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Mr. Gocial was apparently barred from contract interpretation testimony, an issue we will request be reviewed or allowed within Amended Judgment.

dispositive motions and most importantly the undeniable, but avoided, fact that a plain reading of relevant contract shows their client defrauded the United States more than they can afford to pay back. Law students will be studying their victorious gimmicks. The best, and perhaps prevailing, gimmick is certainly the 'spreadsheets'. Mr. Wilmot stated that he did not rely on this document for his contract interpretation but instead the 'four corners' of the contract<sup>3</sup>. (Ex. 1, Wilmot depo. Pg. 84 lines 16-18) "Record Press is not responsible for any numbers that enters into this particular table and the interpretation of this particular table [RP000069] [emphasis added]". Record Press, by counsel, again has it's cake and eats it too, this is also known as cognitive dissonance. Mr. Wilmot eschewed this document in his deposition because it shows the intent we are not required to prove under False Claims Act. Certainly he is aware, and we have shown, that Record Press should not be billing at all for Collating, Trimming to Size and **Binding!** McKenna Long's 'muddying the waters' by demanding, without logic, the court view a tiny snippet of the spreadsheet Mr. Wilmot swore he did not use. A great victory yes, but also a death of a thousand cuts for the False Claims Act, rendering it

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Ex. 1 pg.#83 line2-84line21 "BY MR. KING: Q. Do you – do you recognize this document? [RP000069, ex. 2] A. Yes, I Do. Q. And what type of document is this? A. This document is a breakdown that generally accompanies the RFP submitted by the GPO to every vendor or potential contractor for this particular **program.** [emphasis in original] Q. Okay. And if you look down there for Record Press, and you go down to where it says collating, trimming to size, and binding per 100 pages, the basis of the order 14, the unit rate of 12.25, do you see that that's written there? ..... THE WITNESS: [Mr. Wilmot] Correct. I see it. BY MR KING: Q. And is it – is it your testimony that these particular entries under Record Press's column are entries corresponding to the RFP that Record Press submitted?......THE WITNESS: I don't know. BY MR KING: Q. Okay. So Mr. Wilmot, you didn't prepare the document? A. **That's correct.** ..... THE WITNESS: The previous question was, did I prepare this document being this spreadsheet layout, no. Record Press did not create this. This is not a Record Press product. Record Press is not responsible for any numbers that enters into this particular table and the interpretation of this particular table [emphasis added].....

moot. This is unfortunate and we again pray the court grant an Amended Judgment and deny fees and stay Bill of Costs (dct. 95) until case is finally decided.

Brian Burke, Relator

145 east 23rd street #4R

Dated July 11, 2013

New York, NY 10010

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# **Price Fixing, Bid Rigging, and Market Allocation Schemes:** What They Are and What to Look For

## An Antitrust Primer

This primer briefly describes the most common antitrust violations and outlines those conditions and events that indicate anticompetitive collusion.

## Introduction (1)

American consumers have the right to expect the benefits of free and open competition — the best goods and services at the lowest prices. Public and private organizations often rely on a competitive bidding process to achieve that end. The competitive process only works, however, when competitors set prices honestly and independently. When competitors collude, prices are inflated and the customer is cheated. Price fixing, bid rigging, and other forms of collusion are illegal and are subject to criminal prosecution by the Antitrust Division of the United States Department of Justice.

In recent years, the Antitrust Division has successfully prosecuted regional, national, and international conspiracies affecting construction, agricultural products, manufacturing, service industries, consumer products, and many other sectors of our economy. Many of these prosecutions resulted from information uncovered by members of the general public who reported the information to the Antitrust Division. Working together, we can continue the effort to protect and promote free and open competition in the marketplaces of America.

This primer contains an overview of the federal antitrust laws and the penalties that may be imposed for their violation. It briefly describes the most common antitrust violations and outlines those conditions and events that indicate anticompetitive collusion so that you might better identify and report suspicious activity.

## **Federal Antitrust Enforcement**

Enacted in 1890, the Sherman Act is among our country's most important and enduring pieces of economic legislation. The Sherman Act prohibits any agreement among competitors to fix prices, rig bids, or engage in other anticompetitive activity. Criminal prosecution of Sherman Act violations is the responsibility of the Antitrust Division of the United States Department of Justice.

Violation of the Sherman Act is a felony punishable by a fine of up to \$10 million for corporations, and a fine of up to \$350,000 or 3 years imprisonment (or both) for individuals, if the offense was committed before June 22, 2004. If the offense was

committed on or after June 22, 2004, the maximum Sherman Act fine is \$100 million for corporations and \$1 million for individuals, and the maximum Sherman Act jail sentence is 10 years. Under some circumstances, the maximum potential fine may be increased above the Sherman Act maximums to twice the gain or loss involved. In addition, collusion among competitors may constitute violations of the mail or wire fraud statute, the false statements statute, or other federal felony statutes, all of which the Antitrust Division prosecutes.

In addition to receiving a criminal sentence, a corporation or individual convicted of a Sherman Act violation may be ordered to make restitution to the victims for all overcharges. Victims of bid-rigging and price-fixing conspiracies also may seek civil recovery of up to three times the amount of damages suffered.

## **Forms of Collusion**

Most criminal antitrust prosecutions involve price fixing, bid rigging, or market division or allocation schemes. Each of these forms of collusion may be prosecuted criminally if they occurred, at least in part, within the past five years. Proving such a crime does not require us to show that the conspirators entered into a formal written or express agreement. Price fixing, bid rigging, and other collusive agreements can be established either by direct evidence, such as the testimony of a participant, or by circumstantial evidence, such as suspicious bid patterns, travel and expense reports, telephone records, and business diary entries.

Under the law, price-fixing and bid-rigging schemes are per se violations of the Sherman Act. This means that where such a collusive scheme has been established, it cannot be justified under the law by arguments or evidence that, for example, the agreed-upon prices were reasonable, the agreement was necessary to prevent or eliminate price cutting or ruinous competition, or the conspirators were merely trying to make sure that each got a fair share of the market.

## Price Fixing

Price fixing is an agreement among competitors to raise, fix, or otherwise maintain the price at which their goods or services are sold. It is not necessary that the competitors agree to charge exactly the same price, or that every competitor in a given industry join the conspiracy. Price fixing can take many forms, and any agreement that restricts price competition violates the law. Other examples of price-fixing agreements include those to:

- Establish or adhere to price discounts.
- Hold prices firm.
- Eliminate or reduce discounts.
- Adopt a standard formula for computing prices.
- Maintain certain price differentials between different types, sizes, or quantities of

products.

- Adhere to a minimum fee or price schedule.
- Fix credit terms.
- Not advertise prices.

In many cases, participants in a price-fixing conspiracy also establish some type of policing mechanism to make sure that everyone adheres to the agreement.

## **Bid Rigging**

Bid rigging is the way that conspiring competitors effectively raise prices where purchasers — often federal, state, or local governments — acquire goods or services by soliciting competing bids.

Essentially, competitors agree in advance who will submit the winning bid on a contract being let through the competitive bidding process. As with price fixing, it is not necessary that all bidders participate in the conspiracy.

Bid rigging also takes many forms, but bid-rigging conspiracies usually fall into one or more of the following categories:

Bid Suppression: In bid suppression schemes, one or more competitors who otherwise would be expected to bid, or who have previously bid, agree to refrain from bidding or withdraw a previously submitted bid so that the designated winning competitor's bid will be accepted.

Complementary Bidding: Complementary bidding (also known as "cover" or "courtesy" bidding) occurs when some competitors agree to submit bids that either are too high to be accepted or contain special terms that will not be acceptable to the buyer. Such bids are not intended to secure the buyer's acceptance, but are merely designed to give the appearance of genuine competitive bidding. Complementary bidding schemes are the most frequently occurring forms of bid rigging, and they defraud purchasers by creating the appearance of competition to conceal secretly inflated prices.

Bid Rotation: In bid rotation schemes, all conspirators submit bids but take turns being the low bidder. The terms of the rotation may vary; for example, competitors may take turns on contracts according to the size of the contract, allocating equal amounts to each conspirator or allocating volumes that correspond to the size of each conspirator company. A strict bid rotation pattern defies the law of chance and suggests collusion is taking place.

**Subcontracting:** Subcontracting arrangements are often part of a bid-rigging scheme. Competitors who agree not to bid or to submit a losing bid frequently receive subcontracts or supply contracts in exchange from the successful low bidder. In some schemes, a low bidder will agree to withdraw its bid in favor of the next low bidder in exchange for a lucrative subcontract that divides the illegally obtained higher price

between them.

Almost all forms of bid-rigging schemes have one thing in common: an agreement among some or all of the bidders which predetermines the winning bidder and limits or eliminates competition among the conspiring vendors.

## Market Division

Market division or allocation schemes are agreements in which competitors divide markets among themselves. In such schemes, competing firms allocate specific customers or types of customers, products, or territories among themselves. For example, one competitor will be allowed to sell to, or bid on contracts let by, certain customers or types of customers. In return, he or she will not sell to, or bid on contracts let by, customers allocated to the other competitors. In other schemes, competitors agree to sell only to customers in certain geographic areas and refuse to sell to, or quote intentionally high prices to, customers in geographic areas allocated to conspirator companies.

# **Detecting Bid Rigging, Price Fixing, And Other Types Of Collusion**

Bid rigging, price fixing, and other collusion can be very difficult to detect. Collusive agreements are usually reached in secret, with only the participants having knowledge of the scheme. However, suspicions may be aroused by unusual bidding or pricing patterns or something a vendor says or does.

## Bid or Price Patterns

Certain patterns of bidding or pricing conduct seem at odds with a competitive market and suggest the possibility of collusion:

## **Bids**

- The same company always wins a particular procurement. This may be more suspicious if one or more companies continually submit unsuccessful bids.
- The same suppliers submit bids and each company seems to take a turn being the successful bidder.
- Some bids are much higher than published price lists, previous bids by the same firms, or engineering cost estimates.
- Fewer than the normal number of competitors submit bids.
- A company appears to be bidding substantially higher on some bids than on other bids, with no apparent cost differences to account for the disparity.
- Bid prices drop whenever a new or infrequent bidder submits a bid.
- A successful bidder subcontracts work to competitors that submitted unsuccessful

bids on the same project.

 A company withdraws its successful bid and subsequently is subcontracted work by the new winning contractor.

## **Prices**

- Identical prices may indicate a price-fixing conspiracy, especially when:
- Prices stay identical for long periods of time.
- Prices previously were different.
- Price increases do not appear to be supported by increased costs.
- Discounts are eliminated, especially in a market where discounts historically were given.
- Vendors are charging higher prices to local customers than to distant customers. This may indicate local prices are fixed.

## Suspicious Statements or Behavior

While vendors who collude try to keep their arrangements secret, occasional slips or carelessness may be a tip-off to collusion. In addition, certain patterns of conduct or statements by bidders or their employees suggest the possibility of collusion. Be alert for the following situations, each of which has triggered a successful criminal antitrust prosecution:

- The proposals or bid forms submitted by different vendors contain irregularities (such as identical calculations or spelling errors) or similar handwriting, typeface, or stationery. This may indicate that the designated low bidder may have prepared some or all of the losing vendor's bid.
- Bid or price documents contain white-outs or other physical alterations indicating last-minute price changes.
- A company requests a bid package for itself and a competitor or submits both its and another's bids.
- A company submits a bid when it is incapable of successfully performing the contract (likely a complementary bid).
- A company brings multiple bids to a bid opening and submits its bid only after determining (or trying to determine) who else is bidding.
- A bidder or salesperson makes:
- Any reference to industry-wide or association price schedules.

- Any statement indicating advance (non-public) knowledge of competitors' pricing.
- Statements to the effect that a particular customer or contract "belongs" to a certain vendor.
- Statements that a bid was a "courtesy," "complementary," "token," or "cover" bid.
- Any statement indicating that vendors have discussed prices among themselves or have reached an understanding about prices.

## A Caution About Indicators of Collusion

While these indicators may arouse suspicion of collusion, they are not proof of collusion. For example, bids that come in well above the estimate may indicate collusion or simply an incorrect estimate. Also, a bidder can lawfully submit an intentionally high bid that it does not think will be successful for its own independent business reasons, such as being too busy to handle the work but wanting to stay on the bidders' list. Only when a company submits an intentionally high bid because of an agreement with a competitor does an antitrust violation exist. Thus, indicators of collusion merely call for further investigation to determine whether collusion exists or whether there is an innocent explanation for the events in question.

## **Conditions Favorable To Collusion**

While collusion can occur in almost any industry, it is more likely to occur in some industries than in others. An indicator of collusion may be more meaningful when industry conditions are already favorable to collusion.

- Collusion is more likely to occur if there are few sellers. The fewer the number of sellers, the easier it is for them to get together and agree on prices, bids, customers, or territories. Collusion may also occur when the number of firms is fairly large, but there is a small group of major sellers and the rest are "fringe" sellers who control only a small fraction of the market.
- The probability of collusion increases if other products cannot easily be substituted for the product in question or if there are restrictive specifications for the product being procured.
- The more standardized a product is, the easier it is for competing firms to reach agreement on a common price structure. It is much harder to agree on other forms of competition, such as design, features, quality, or service.
- Repetitive purchases may increase the chance of collusion, as the vendors may become familiar with other bidders and future contracts provide the opportunity for competitors to share the work.
- Collusion is more likely if the competitors know each other well through social connections, trade associations, legitimate business contacts, or shifting

employment from one company to another.

• Bidders who congregate in the same building or town to submit their bids have an easy opportunity for last-minute communications.

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#### **FOOTNOTES**

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ARTICLE: THE GOVERNMENT KNOWLEDGE DEFENSE TO THE CIVIL FALSE CLAIMS ACT: A MISNOMER BY ANY OTHER NAME DOES NOT SOUND AS SWEET

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#### **SUMMARY:**

... A Phoenix Rises from the Ashes: The Development of the Government Knowledge Defense In 1986, in addition to eliminating the government knowledge-based jurisdictional bar, Congress clarified the FCA's scienter element, making it clear that the United States need not prove specific intent in order to establish that the defendant acted knowingly when it submitted a false claim or statement to the United States. ... Citing several dated cases, the court pointed out that "b ecause FCA liability requires an element of fraud or falsity, courts have disallowed FCA claims where the Government knew, or was in possession at the time of the claim, of the facts that make the claim false." ... Hagood In Hagood, a qui tam relator brought suit alleging that the water agency had presented false cost allocation information to the United States to obtain an Army Corps of Engineers contract. ... The contractor in this scenario is still attempting to defraud the United States, and that fact remains unchanged even when the contracting officer or some other relevant acquisition official discovers the misconduct. ... The Tenth Circuit noted that the court in Butler had rejected the position that only a contracting officer's knowledge was relevant for purposes of determining whether a defendant had acted knowingly. ... For purposes of this defense, the legally relevant authority extends beyond that possessed by contracting officers to other procurement officials "with authority to act under the contract." ... Significantly, government employees, including procurement officials, lack the authority to waive fraudulent conduct. ... Further, contractors will be held responsible for knowing the limitations on the authority of government contracting officials when such limitations were contained in published laws or regulations. ... Finding the regulators satisfactory, the Army's Contracting Officer accepted them as "equal" to the Delco-Remy regulators, and the contractor furnished the remaining regulators.

#### TEXT:

#### I. INTRODUCTION

The Civil False Claims Act n1 (FCA) serves as the United States Government's preeminent tool for addressing fraud. n2 The FCA's application has expanded beyond its initial focus on defense procurement fraud to embrace most federally funded government programs. n3 The largest recoveries under the FCA are currently obtained in health care fraud cases. n4 As a fraud fighting tool, the FCA has proven extremely successful, at least in terms of the fraud-related monetary recoveries. Since 1986, the United States has recovered more than \$ 20 billion under the FCA. n5

In response to the government's aggressive use of the FCA, the defense bar has developed several defenses to FCA claims. n6 One such defense that has enjoyed a measure of success is the inappropriately named "government knowledge defense." The government knowledge defense is a misnomer to the extent the term implies that government knowledge of alleged wrongdoing, by itself, affords a complete defense to an FCA lawsuit. Indeed, the scope of the defense is much narrower. To the extent knowledge of wrongdoing by government officials constitutes a defense at all, such knowledge serves as a defense to the FCA's scienter element; that is, the alleged misconduct was not committed knowingly. In other words, the defendant could not have knowingly violated the FCA because the government knew about the conduct and authorized it, either explicitly or tacitly; or, at the very minimum, the defendant reasonably believed that the government was aware of, and in agreement with, the challenged conduct.

This article will examine the government knowledge defense, reviewing its development and examining its present state. Part II first provides an overview of the FCA. Part III then examines the development of the defense, distinguishing between the pre-1986 jurisdictional bar generated by government knowledge of misconduct and the post-1986 development of what has become known as the government knowledge defense. The article posits that the modern government knowledge defense traces its lineage to the Ninth Circuit's seminal decision in *United States ex rel*. Hagood v. Sonoma County Water Agency. n7 Reviewing reported decisions, Part IV discusses the defense as it has developed into its modern form and attempts to articulate the defense's basic elements. Although the FCA has been applied to address fraud in the vast majority of federally funded programs, this article will focus primarily on its application to government contracts.

#### II. HISTORICAL BACKGROUND OF THE FALSE CLAIMS ACT

The False Claims Act was enacted during the Civil War as a statutory tool to combat widespread fraud found among defense contractors. n8 The Union Army reported instances of being charged multiple times for the same horse, finding "boots made of cardboard rather than leather," n9 and discovering sawdust substituted for gunpowder in ammunition crates and muskets in rifle crates. n10 Civil War contractors had billed the United States "for nonexistent or worthless goods, charged exorbitant prices for goods delivered, and generally robbed in purchasing the necessities of war." n11 In its original form, the FCA allowed private persons to initiate lawsuits n12 and provided for both criminal and civil penalties, but Congress eventually removed the FCA's criminal component and placed it elsewhere. n13

Except for brief flurries of activity associated with America's entry into war, with concomitant increases in defense spending and defense contractor fraud, the FCA was infrequently used. n14 However, during the early 1980s, federal agencies reported a steady increase in fraud investigations. The Department of Defense (DoD) reported that it conducted 2311 such investigations in 1984. n15 The following year, the DoD Inspector General "testified that 45 of the 100 largest defense contractors, including 9 of the top 10, were under investigation for multiple fraud offenses." n16 Further, the Department of Justice reported to Congress that, within the proceeding year, it had achieved convictions of four major defense companies and had indicted another. n17

The procurement fraud scandals of the early 1980s gave rise to various legislative initiatives designed to strengthen the government's ability to deal with rampant fraud within the defense industry, n18 including significant revisions to the FCA. n19 The 1986 amendments increased the maximum penalty from \$2000 to \$10,000 and provided for treble damages, n20 added "reverse false claims" n21 and anti-retaliation provisions, n22 eliminated the exclusion for

members of the armed forces, n23 clarified the scienter element n24 and the standard of proof, n25 and lengthened the statute of limitations. n26

In its current form, the FCA provides for civil liability against any person who engages in one of seven forms of misconduct. n27 The most common FCA causes of action are submitting a false claim and making or using false records to support a false claim. n28

An FCA action may be brought initially by either the United States or by an individual on behalf of the United States. n29 When suit is brought by an individual (a relator), the case is known as a qui tam. n30 "The basic idea [behind a qui tam suit] is that a private citizen with personal knowledge of such fraud may bring suit on the government's behalf in return for a cut of the proceeds should the suit prevail." n31 The United States may assume control over a qui tam lawsuit or it may decline to intervene and permit the relator to pursue the case. n32

A defendant found to have violated the FCA may be held liable for treble damages and a civil penalty of \$5500 to \$ 11,000 per false claim. n33 FCA damages "typically are liberally calculated to ensure that they 'afford the government complete indemnity for the injuries done it." n34 Additionally, recovery of penalties is not dependent upon the United States proving actual damages. n35 In successful qui tam cases, the relator is entitled to a share of the government's recovery. This share may range up to thirty percent of the amount the United States recovers, depending upon the relator's contribution to the successful resolution of the case. n36

## III. THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE GOVERNMENT KNOWLEDGE DEFENSE

#### A. Demise of the Government Knowledge Jurisdictional Bar

Prior to 1986, government knowledge of the factual basis for a qui tam suit served as a jurisdictional bar to potential relators. n37 This bar reflected Congress's efforts during World War II to eliminate parasitic lawsuits. n38 Such lawsuits were being brought "by parties having no information of their own to contribute, but who merely plagiarized information in indictments returned to the courts, newspaper stories or congressional investigations." n39 The FCA's prior government knowledge provision had been strictly interpreted so as to "preclud[e] any qui tam suit based on information in the Government's possession, despite the source." n40 Some courts have precluded qui tam lawsuits based on information in the government's possession even when the relator was the source of that information. n41 Corrupt contractors found an unintended safe harbor. As one legal treatise noted: "Defense contractors seeking to avoid liability or governmental officials who resented qui tam actions were almost always able to find some Government official somewhere who had *some* knowledge of the fraudulent activities involved." n42

Believing that such a draconian jurisdictional bar could lead to inequitable results n43 and seeking to encourage potential relators to bring suit, n44 Congress eliminated the jurisdictional bar and instead substituted a public disclosure standard: "[A] qui tam suit will be barred only if it is based on information that was 'publicly disclosed' at various hearings, in certain types of reports, or by the media." n45 Under this standard, "[i]nformation that the government 'has,' but that was never publicly disclosed, does not bar a qui tam suit." n46

In the event of a public disclosure, the qui tam relator's action is not barred so long as the relator was the original source of the information giving rise to the lawsuit. n47 The "original source" requirement is jurisdictional. n48 The FCA defines an "original source" as "an individual who has direct and independent knowledge of the information on which the allegations are based and has voluntarily provided the information to the Government before filing an action under [the FCA] which is based on the information." n49

The prior government knowledge-based jurisdictional bar and the current government knowledge defenses are analytically distinct concepts. The former focused on the government's knowledge of the fraud to preclude the relator from bringing suit; n50 the latter focuses on the effect the government's knowledge has on the defendant's mental state in order to determine if the defendant acted knowingly. n51 Further, the earlier jurisdictional language was removed from the FCA in 1986 n52 and replaced with the public disclosure/original source language found in § 3730(e)(4). n53

Accordingly, to the extent that the possession of information forming the basis of a relator's FCA lawsuit served as a jurisdictional bar, that form of government knowledge defense no longer exists. However, "[o]nce public disclosure became the linchpin of the jurisdictional scheme, the effect of government knowledge on the viability of an FCA claim was thrown to the courts to decide." n54

## B. A Phoenix Rises from the Ashes: The Development of the Government Knowledge Defense

In 1986, in addition to eliminating the government knowledge-based jurisdictional bar, Congress clarified the FCA's scienter element, making it clear that the United States need not prove specific intent in order to establish that the defendant acted knowingly when it submitted a false claim or statement to the United States. n55 In doing so, Congress intended to reach "the increasingly familiar 'ostrich-like' conduct of corporate officers, who had been able to insulate themselves from FCA liability for false claims submitted by unwitting subordinates." n56

By the plain terms of the FCA's statutory language, the scienter requirement is that the defendant acted knowingly for all FCA claims except those enumerated in sections 3729(a)(3), (a)(4) and (a)(5). n57 Currently, the FCA defines "knowing" and "knowingly" to "mean that a person, with respect to information -- (1) has actual knowledge of the information; (2) acts in deliberate ignorance of the truth or falsity of the information; or (3) acts in reckless disregard of the truth or falsity of the information . . . . " n58

In other words, the "defendant must 'know' that a claim or statement is false or fraudulent, that is, he must (1) have actual knowledge that it is false, (2) act in deliberate ignorance of its truth or falsity or (3) act in reckless disregard of its truth or falsity." n59 The United States, or a relator acting on its behalf, is not required to prove that the defendant acted with the specific intent to defraud. n60

## 1. Boisjoly: A Failed First Attempt

The first reported post-1986 amendment case to address the government knowledge defense was *Boisjoly v. Morton* Thiokol, Inc. n61 In Boisjoly, an engineer working for the defendant filed a qui tam following the Challenger disaster, alleging that Morton Thiokol provided NASA with defective solid rocket motors (SRM), n62 that the defendant's role in the launch decision constituted a false claim, and that the company requested and received a bonus from NASA despite the shuttle disaster and the company's failure to meet contract specifications. n63

The court granted the defendant's motion to dismiss the first cause of action, noting that the complaint itself indicated that NASA knew of the alleged SRM defects. n64 Citing several dated cases, n65 the court pointed out that "[b]ecause FCA liability requires an element of fraud or falsity, courts have disallowed FCA claims where the Government knew, or was in possession at the time of the claim, of the facts that make the claim false." n66 The court then posited, "only if the government gets something less than or different from that which it expected can it be said to have suffered the kind of injury necessary to invoke FCA liability." n67 The court held "that if the complaint itself alleges that the government knew of those very facts or characteristics which allegedly make the claim false, no claim has been stated." n68

Further, the court determined that the remaining causes of action did not state an FCA claim. n69 The court found that the defendant had certified the safety of the SRMs only after disclosing its concerns to NASA and after being pressured by the government to submit the certification. n70 The court held that such "circumstances are simply not the kind against which the FCA is meant to protect" and "negate[] any element of falsity or fraud that might otherwise exist." n71

With respect to that portion of the opinion addressing the government knowledge defense, the court's decision has been criticized n72 and effectively overruled to the extent Boisjoly suggests that government knowledge constitutes an absolute defense. n73 In Shaw v. AAA Engineering & Drafting, Inc., the United States Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit specifically rejected the notion that government knowledge constituted an absolute defense to an FCA case. n74 Instead, the court noted that "there may still be occasions when the government's knowledge of or cooperation with a

contractor's actions is so extensive that the contractor could not as a matter of law possess the requisite state of mind to be liable under the FCA." n75 Further, as subsequent case law has shown, government knowledge may serve as a defense to the FCA's scienter element, rather than to the falsity of the claim. n76

#### 2. *Hagood:* The Ninth Circuit Sets the Standard

The seminal and most often cited case to address the government knowledge defense since the 1986 amendments to the FCA is United States ex rel. Hagood v. Sonoma County Water Agency. n77 Indeed, the Hagood decision has been cited with approval by several circuit courts, including the Second, n78 Sixth, n79 Seventh, n80 and Tenth, n81 by the U.S. Court of Federal Claims, n82 and by district court decisions in other circuits. n83

#### a. Hagood

In Hagood, a qui tam relator n84 brought suit alleging that the water agency had presented false cost allocation information to the United States to obtain an Army Corps of Engineers contract. n85 The district court dismissed the suit "for failure to state a claim for which relief could be granted." n86

The district court believed that Hagood's complaint was "essentially self-contradictory" because it both alleged that the water agency had committed fraud and that "'the high government officials responsible for taking the action' knew of the facts that made the complaint false." n87 Further, the district court found that Hagood failed to sufficiently plead fraudulent intent for purposes of Fed. R. Civ. P. 9(b) and that the government's knowledge of the alleged falsity made it "impossible to say that the government had suffered the kind of injury necessary to impose liability under the False Claims Act." n88 Elaborating, the district court mused, "it is difficult to see how any damages to the United States are caused by false statements when officials, with full knowledge of the falsity of the statements, proceed to take an action depriving the government of funds notwithstanding the false statements." n89

On appeal, the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit reversed and remanded. n90 The appellate court found that Hagood's complaint was not self-contradicting. n91 Reviewing the FCA's requirement that the alleged misconduct be knowing, the court noted that the scienter element required more than mere negligence or innocent mistake but did not require the government to prove specific intent to deceive. n92 In terms of intent, the United States had to establish "the knowing presentation of what is known to be false." n93

With respect to government knowledge of the falsity, the court acknowledged that such knowledge could be "highly relevant"; it could "show that the defendant did not submit its claim in deliberate ignorance or reckless disregard of the truth." n94 However, the court also posited that government knowledge did not alone provide an absolute defense--"[t]hat the relevant government officials know of the falsity is not in itself a defense." n95 In short, the court found evidence of government knowledge potentially relevant to the FCA's scienter element, but not to the issue of falsity. n96

The court left the question of whether government knowledge may preclude an award of damages unanswered. n97 However, the court pointed out that the United States need not prove damages in order to recover penalties and costs, suggesting that even if government knowledge provided a causal defense against an award of damages, such knowledge did not insulate the defendant from the imposition of penalties. n98

Finally, the court rejected an estoppel defense. Reiterating the well-established law that "estoppel will not lie against the United States 'on the same terms as any other litigant," under the facts alleged in this case, the court posited that "[t]he defendant's 'inability to retain money that it should never have received in the first place' is not the kind of detrimental reliance that justifies estoppel against the government." n99 Finding that Hagood's allegations constituted a valid cause of action, the court further admonished: "Protection of the public fisc requires that those who seek public funds act with scrupulous regard for the requirements of the law . . . . [T]hose who deal with the Government are expected to know the law and may not rely on the conduct of Government agents contrary to law." n100

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b. Hagood's Progenies: Wang & Butler

The Ninth Circuit's decisions in *Wang* and *Butler* amplified its original decision in *Hagood*. In *Wang ex rel*. *United States v. FMC Corp.*, n101 a qui tam relator, who had alleged that FMC defrauded the United States on four defense contracts including a contract involving a lightweight howitzer, unsuccessfully appealed the district court's grant of summary judgment to FMC. n102 In support of his claim, Wang alleged "that FMC's engineering work was of 'low quality,' and that the design for the lightweight howitzer was 'faulty.'" n103 Wang's sole piece of evidence to support his allegations concerning the howitzer contract was an FMC "lessons learned" memorandum written after the contract had been cancelled. n104 Significantly, "all of the issues discussed in the memorandum were first raised and considered in meetings with the Army." n105

Analyzing the FCA's scienter requirement, the court noted that the Army knew about "FMC's mistakes and limitations, and that FMC was open with the government about them . . . . " n106 Accordingly, the court opined that Wang's evidence was insufficient to survive summary judgment, the memorandum suggesting only "that while FMC might have been groping for solutions, it was not cheating the government in the effort." n107 To be knowingly false, there must be something more than a mere scientific untruth, there must be "a lie." n108

Following *Wang*, the Ninth Circuit again addressed the issue of government knowledge in an FCA case. In *United States ex rel. Butler v. Hughes Helicopter*, *Inc.*, n109 a qui tam relator, who alleged that the defendant had made false statements and submitted false claims "related to several aspects of the testing of the avionics and navigation subsystems" of the Apache attack helicopter, appealed an adverse directed verdict. n110 At trial, the defendant argued, in relevant part, that Army technical representatives approved deviations from the required specifications and that Army technical representatives were also present during relevant equipment tests. n111 As part of its findings of fact, the district court noted "the Army's knowledge of and access to the modifications in the testing of the subsystems . . . ." n112 Further, the district court's decision relied on its conclusion that the Army and defendant enjoyed a "pattern of cooperation" in which "information flowed freely," and "all information upon which [Butler] bases his case was not only available to the Army, but in the Army's possession." n113

On appeal, Butler did not challenge the district court's findings of fact, but instead argued "that the *wrong* Army personnel knew, that is, that only a contracting officer had the power to modify a government contract to allow the deviations the Army allowed in the testing." n114 The court first noted that government knowledge is not an automatic defense to an FCA action and that courts must evaluate the significance of such knowledge on a case-by-case basis. n115 Relying on *Hagood* and *Wang*, the court then determined that the scope of its review focused on the evidence "that [the defendant] and the Army had so completely cooperated and shared all information during the testing that [the defendant] did not 'knowingly' submit false claims," in which case the court would affirm the directed verdict. n116 With respect to the government knowledge defense, the court did not directly confront Butler's argument, but instead found that test changes were discussed between the defendant and Army representatives, that Army technical representatives knew of and approved these changes, and, accordingly, that the allegedly noncompliant test could not have been a "knowingly false statement[]." n117

#### IV. THE CURRENT STATE OF THE DEFENSE

The vast majority of cases have determined that government knowledge is not an absolute defense to an FCA action. n118 In other words, the mere fact that government officials know of the falsity does not, standing alone, constitute a defense. n119 While relevant, "the Government's knowledge is . . . not necessarily dispositive . . . . " n120 The significance of the government's knowledge is determined on a case by case basis. n121

Since the 1986 FCA amendments, several courts have addressed the government knowledge defense, providing an emerging, but sufficiently well defined, body of law to map out the parameters of this defense. In order for government knowledge of defendant's alleged wrongdoing to serve as a defense to an FCA action, the defendant must satisfy several elements. First, the defendant can use the government's knowledge of his conduct to defend against the FCA's scienter

element to establish that he did not knowingly commit a violation of the FCA. Second, the defendant must establish that the government had knowledge of the specific conduct that forms the basis of the FCA claim. Third, the defendant cannot merely show that someone in the government had knowledge of the challenged conduct; rather, the defendant must prove that a relevant government official was aware of the challenged conduct and approved it, either explicitly or tacitly. Finally, the defendant must also prove that the relevant government official had knowledge of the specific conduct at issue before the defendant presented a claim.

#### A. Defendant's Scienter Was Affected

The courts have applied the government knowledge defense to the scienter element of the FCA. n122 As originally explained by the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit in Hagood, the requisite intent in an FCA case is "the knowing presentation of what is known to be false." n123 Accordingly, "[t]hat the relevant government officials know of the falsity is not in itself a defense." n124 "[T]he knowledge possessed by officials of the United States may be ... relevant.... [to] show that the defendant did not submit its claim in deliberate ignorance or reckless disregard of the truth." n125 The focus of the defense is not on what the government knew; rather, the defense focuses on whether the defendant acted knowingly, examining the effect of the government's knowledge on the defendant.

Interpreting the FCA to provide an absolute defense based on government knowledge of the specific falsity at issue, without a concomitant effect on the defendant's mental state, would lead to absurd results. To illustrate, assume that a contractor knowingly submits a false claim--indeed does so with the specific intent to defraud the United States--but a federal employee learns of the falsity unbeknownst to the corrupt contractor, either before or after the claim is submitted. Is the claim any less false, or was it submitted any less knowingly, merely because someone in the government became aware of it? The answer, of course, is no. n126 Nor does the answer change if the federal employee who discovers the falsity is the cognizant contracting officer. n127 The contractor in this scenario is still attempting to defraud the United States, and that fact remains unchanged even when the contracting officer or some other relevant acquisition official discovers the misconduct.

In Shaw v. AAA Engineering & Drafting Inc., n128 the United States Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit rejected a government knowledge defense based on knowledge of misconduct provided to the government by the qui tam relator, who had formerly been employed by the defendant. While still an employee of the defendant, Shaw reported certain environmental misconduct to the government's Quality Assurance Evaluator, who in turn relayed the information to the contracting officer. n129 In rejecting the defense the court posited:

Assuming some level of government knowledge would negate the intent requirement under the FCA as a matter of law, the level of government knowledge in the present case does not do so. It was the plaintiff, Shaw, and not the individual defendants or other AAA employees, who told the government about the failure to practice silver recovery. n130

The unsuitability of government knowledge as an absolute defense is highlighted further when the knowledgeable federal employee is not merely a passive recipient of information, but instead is a participant in a scheme to defraud the United States. n131 Clearly, the defendant should not escape liability merely because it found a willing participant--a coconspirator--within the government.

Additionally, an FCA defendant should not benefit if someone from the government learns of the falsity and simply does nothing about it. The Seventh Circuit has held that mere governmental acquiescence is insufficient to sustain a government knowledge defense. n132 The government must both know of, and approve, the particular claim before it is submitted. n133 The opinions of other circuit courts appear to have adopted a similar standard. n134 Unless that person is someone with the requisite level of authority and approves or otherwise indicates to the defendant that its conduct is permissible, then the defendant's scienter remains unaffected. Additionally, "mere acquiescence would preclude FCA liability any time a government employee and a defendant were in cahoots." n135

Even though the government has not affirmatively approved a particular claim or its underlying factual basis when such is in contention, apparently some courts have imposed a less demanding standard that permits the defense when government knowledge is coupled with acquiescence. n136 Such a standard would seem defensible so long as the defendant could establish that the particular facts and circumstances surrounding the government's receipt of relevant information, and subsequent acquiescence, reasonably affected the defendant's mental state. In those jurisdictions adopting such a standard, the critical focus would remain on the defendant's scienter, that is, did the defendant knowingly submit a false claim.

#### B. Specific Falsity at Issue

In order for government knowledge to serve as a defense, the United States must also have known of the specific falsity at issue. Both the Fifth and Seventh Circuits have posited: "[I]f the government knows and approves of *the particulars* of a claim for payment before that claim is presented, the presenter cannot be said to have knowingly presented a fraudulent or false claim." n137 Other courts applying the defense have articulated a similar standard n138 or have noted that the specific falsity at issue was known to the government. n139 Logically, this element should be met if the defendant has fully disclosed all relevant facts leading up to the presentment of a claim, or followed the government's specific instructions when presenting the claim, such that it is apparent that the government knew and approved of the defendant's course of action. n140 Under this standard, it is insufficient that the Government becomes aware of contractual or programmatic irregularities not amounting to fraud or becomes aware of other, unrelated fraud.

#### C. Relevant Government Officials

Merely establishing that someone within the government possessed knowledge of the defendant's wrongdoing does not, by itself, satisfy this element of the government knowledge defense. Albeit few cases have squarely addressed the issue, several opinions have suggested a limitation on the defense, requiring that the knowledge be possessed by relevant government employees. n141 Other court opinions applying the defense, but not addressing the relevant pool of government officials, have noted complete or extensive knowledge by the government of the alleged misconduct, n142 suggesting that this limited body of relevant or responsible officials also had the requisite knowledge. If such a limitation did not exist, then a defendant could escape liability simply by finding someone within the government who possessed some knowledge of the challenged conduct, regardless of that person's authority or relationship with the underlying program or activity.

The United States Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit was one of the few courts to directly address this issue in the federal procurement context. In *United States ex rel. Stone v. Rockwell International Corp.*, n143 the Tenth Circuit reviewed a challenge to the district court's jury instruction, "charging the jury that they could consider the knowledge of all 'government employees with authority to act under the contract." n144 Noting that the instruction had not limited the jury's consideration of knowledge possessed only by the government's contracting officers, but rather that such authority extended to "a broader range of individuals," the appellate court held that the district court's instruction was not in error. n145

Further, the court rejected the appellant's argument that upholding the lower court's jury instruction would conflict with *United States ex rel*. *Butler v*. *Hughes Helicopters*, *Inc*. n146 The Tenth Circuit noted that the court in *Butler* had rejected the position that only a contracting officer's knowledge was relevant for purposes of determining whether a defendant had acted knowingly. n147 Instead, the Ninth Circuit had included "technical representatives" within the pool of relevant government officials. n148

As the *Stone* decision correctly indicates, for purposes of this defense, the legal significance of the government's knowledge in the federal procurement context is linked to the authority of the employee in possession of the information. That authority does not reside with all employees merely because they are somehow associated with the procurement; nor, on the other hand, is such authority embodied solely in the contracting officer. For purposes of this defense, the legally relevant authority extends beyond that possessed by contracting officers to other procurement

officials "with authority to act under the contract." n149

Unfortunately the courts have failed to provide a clear standard for determining relevant officials—those with the requisite level of authority—specifically for purposes of the government knowledge defense. However, although the two bodies of law are not synonymous, established principles of general federal procurement law addressing the authority of federal acquisition officials to bind the government offer guidance for FCA cases. Under these legal principles, application of the government knowledge defense should be limited to knowledge possessed by government employees acting with actual contractual authority, depending upon the facts of the case. n150

#### 1. Actual Authority, Express or Implied, Is Required

As a general rule, the United States is bound only by the conduct of its employees acting with actual authority. n151 Similarly, as a general rule in the procurement context, "[o]nly persons with contracting authority can bind the Government." n152 In the procurement context, cognizant contracting officers have actual authority to bind the government. n153 Once they receive the requisite grant of authority, contracting officers may "enter into, administer, or terminate contracts and make related determinations and findings." n154 Further, contracting officers possess authority "to execute contract modifications on behalf of the Government." n155

Limits on the contracting officer's authority are provided to that official in writing and such limitations are known, or readily subject to determination, by contractors and other federal officials. Contracting officers are appointed in writing with a Certificate of Appointment (called a "warrant") containing any limitations on their authority. n156 Information concerning the limitations on the contracting officer's authority is readily available to the public. n157 Indeed, some contracting officers even post their warrants on their office wall for contractor review. n158

Contracting officers may delegate portions of their authority to other government employees. n159 Accordingly, with respect to federal procurements, the "relevant" pool of actors for the government knowledge defense should normally include the contracting officer overseeing the particular contract, who usually possesses the "authority to enter into, administer, or terminate contracts and make related determinations and findings." n160 Also, the relevant pool could include those subordinate contracting officials whom the contracting officer expressly delegates actual authority to perform various contracting functions. n161 Typical government officials falling into this category may include the Administrative Contracting Officer (ACO), n162 Terminating Contracting Officer (TCO), n163 and certain "formally designated representatives who act on behalf of the Government during contract administration." n164 Such representatives could include the "contracting officer representative (COR), contracting officer technical representative (COTR), Government Technical Representative (GTR), or Government Technical Evaluator (GTE)." n165

For contractors, authority issues may become confusing in federal procurements because they frequently deal with government employees with varying levels of authority, who may possess titles or exercise related duties that suggest a greater level of authority. n166 As one treatise notes:

Within contracting offices, personnel with official-sounding titles such as contract specialist, negotiators, and administrators work for contracting officers and handle the day-to-day contracting activity of the government, but such personnel generally do not have authority to order additional work or to commit the government by virtue of their position. Contractors are expected to recognize this lack of authority. n167

In order to provide relief to contractors, various courts and boards have relied on the court-created theory of "implied" actual authority to bind the United States. n168 Accordingly, in some limited circumstances, "[t]he authority of a Government official . . . may . . . arise from 'implied actual authority." n169 A government employee may be found to possess the "implied authority to bind the Government in contract 'when such authority is considered to be an integral part of the duties assigned to [the] government employee." n170 In this context "integral" means '"essential or 'necessary to form a whole." n171 However, implied authority only exists when *some* authority has been properly

delegated to a government employee. n172 A government procurement official lacking any actual authority, cannot be deemed to possess implied actual authority. n173

Significantly, government employees, including procurement officials, lack the authority to waive fraudulent conduct. n174 Accordingly, the FCA is violated when a contractor submits a false claim even when the contractor informs the government of the claim's falsity before submission. n175 Further, once false claims are received, a contracting officer may not modify the contract, or take other action, to waive past false claims. n176

The Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) also contains express limitations on contracting officer authority when a claim is suspected to be false or tainted by fraud. Pursuant to FAR 33.210(b), the contracting officer has no authority to settle, compromise, pay or adjust "any claim involving fraud." n177 Similarly, section 605(a) of the Contract Disputes Act removes any authority from the head of an agency "to settle, compromise, pay, or otherwise adjust any claim involving fraud." n178 This statutory restriction on agency heads extends downward to subordinate agency procurement officials. n179

However, the fact that a contracting officer, or other authorized procurement official, resolved a bona fide pre-claim dispute that later forms the basis of an FCA lawsuit may give rise to a triable issue. n180 Although they may not waive false or fraudulent claims, contracting officers may resolve legitimate contract disputes. n181 Indeed, as a matter of policy, the federal government encourages resolution of contractual disputes at the contracting officer level. n182 As one court explained this distinction: "[T]he fact of a settlement, while not dispositive, is relevant insofar as it supports an inference that the defendant was involved in a contract dispute with the government, not that a government officer knew of a fraud and nonetheless decided to settle." n183

#### 2. Knowledge and the Duty to Inquire

A second, significant body of law exists placing a duty of inquiry on a contractor when dealing with the United States. This duty is rooted in the unique status of the United States as a sovereign and draws upon the legal principle that persons are charged with constructive knowledge of published laws and regulations. n184 As the United States Supreme Court has admonished: "Men must turn square corners when they deal with the Government . . . . " n185

Within the realm of federal procurement law, courts have placed the burden on contractors to ensure that they are "dealing with a Government employee with contracting authority." n186 Further, contractors will be held responsible for knowing the limitations on the authority of government contracting officials when such limitations were contained in published laws or regulations. n187 Additionally, when the limitations on delegations of authority are expressly made known to contractors by including authority limitations as contract clauses, contractors will be held to those limitations. n188

Various courts have applied the "square corners" rule to the FCA. n189 Further, the legislative history from the 1986 amendments to the FCA reflects a congressional desire that a duty of inquiry be placed on contractors who deal with the government. n190 Furthermore, the FCA's legislative history indicates that the Act's "knowing" definition reflects, at least in part, the constructive knowledge standard. n191 The incorporation of a constructive knowledge standard into the FCA was designed to place at least a limited duty of inquiry upon the defendant in order "to reach what has become known as the 'ostrich' type situation where an individual has 'buried his head in the sand' and failed to make simple inquiries that would alert him that false claims are being submitted." n192

Given the existence of this body of law, with its application to both federal procurement law concerning the authority of federal acquisition officials and to the FCA, any government knowledge defense must also be scrutinized to determine if the defendant contractor knew, or should have known, of the authority limitations on the government official alleged to possess knowledge of contractor wrongdoing. Clearly, if the FCA defendant has actual knowledge of such limitations because of contractual clauses articulating the authority of the government's officials, then federal employees falling outside the scope of those clauses should not constitute relevant officials for purposes of this defense.

Similarly, if contractual authority limitations are contained in publicly available statutes or regulations (for example, FAR), then the contractor should be charged with the constructive knowledge of those limitations and the defense should fail. Finally, some form of limited duty of inquiry should be placed on the contractor to determine the authority of the government official with whom the contractor is providing information.

## 3. Timing Does Matter

The falsity of the claim is measured at the time it is submitted to the United States. n193 Accordingly, a necessary prerequisite to any defense based on government knowledge of the falsity is that the relevant government officials knew of the challenged conduct before the false statement or claim was presented to the United States. Several courts have recognized this limitation on a government knowledge defense. n194 Although not directly addressing the issue, other cases applying the government knowledge defense contain fact patterns in which the government was aware of the challenged conduct before a claim was presented. n195

Such a temporal requirement is consistent with the basic premise underlying the defense--that the contractor did not knowingly engage in misconduct because it believed the government knew of its conduct and approved, either explicitly or tacitly. Also, this prerequisite to the government knowledge defense is consistent with the authority limitations placed on the contracting officer, as well as any other potentially relevant government official that a contractor may reasonably expect to deal with during a federal procurement. As noted earlier, government procurement officials cannot waive or ratify false or fraudulent claims. n196

The following FCA case illustrates this point. In United States v. National Wholesalers, n197 the defendant was awarded a contract to provide 6000 proprietary Delco-Remy vehicle regulators to the Army. n198 The bid proposal permitted either Delco-Remy regulators or "equals," but National Wholesalers offered to provide the actual Delco-Remy regulators, and the contract was awarded on that basis. n199 Unable to provide conforming Delco-Remy regulators, the defendant manufactured its own regulators--which the district found to be equal to the brand regulators--but then printed and affixed false Delco-Remy labels to the regulators. n200

Unaware of the mislabeling, the Army accepted seventeen shipments of the mislabeled parts, for a total of 4086 regulators. n201 Additionally, the contractor submitted seventeen invoices for payment. n202 Upon discovering the contractor's misconduct, the Army issued a "stop order" on future deliveries and tested the manufactured regulators. n203 Finding the regulators satisfactory, the Army's Contracting Officer accepted them as "equal" to the Delco-Remy regulators, and the contractor furnished the remaining regulators. n204

Subsequently, the United States Attorneys Office filed suit under the False Claims Act, based on the seventeen invoices submitted prior to the contracting officer having learned of the mislabeling. n205 The district court found for the defendants, determining in part that the regulators were "equals" and that the contracting officer had the authority to resolve contract disputes, which he had done here. n206

On appeal, the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit reversed. The court determined that the time to test the falsity of a claim is the date when it is submitted. n207 Accordingly, "every one of the invoices prior to [when the contracting officer learned of the mislabeling] was false when made." n208 Further, although the contracting officer has the authority to modify a contract, a retroactive modification under such circumstances was "void as against public policy." n209 The court continued: "In such palming off as we have here we do not believe that the Congress ever intended that contracting officers should have the power to vitiate the False Claims statute." n210

#### V. CONCLUSION

As one federal court has correctly noted, the government knowledge defense is "inaptly-named." n211 The fact that someone in the government possessed knowledge of the misconduct that forms the basis of a False Claims Act lawsuit, by itself, does not constitute a legal defense. Depending upon the circumstances, government knowledge may be highly relevant evidence to negate the FCA defendant's scienter. In other words, government knowledge may

establish that the defendant did not act knowingly, that it did not act with actual knowledge, in deliberate ignorance, or with reckless disregard.

The modern-day government knowledge defense developed slowly in the wake of the 1986 amendments to the False Claims Act. Beginning with the seminal case of *United States ex rel. Hagood v. Sonoma County Water Agency*, n212 the courts have gradually defined the defense's contours and criteria. The vast majority of cases have held that government knowledge may serve as a defense to the FCA's knowing scienter element. Further, the courts require that a relevant government official possess knowledge of the specific falsity at issue before the defendant presents a claim and approve of that conduct. Although not fully mature, the government knowledge defense is sufficiently well developed to provide courts and practitioners with solid guideposts for applying it in FCA litigation.

## **Legal Topics:**

For related research and practice materials, see the following legal topics:
GovernmentsState & Territorial GovernmentsClaims By & AgainstLabor & Employment LawEmployer LiabilityFalse Claims ActCoverage & DefinitionsJurisdictional BarLabor & Employment LawEmployer LiabilityFalse Claims ActCoverage & DefinitionsQui Tam Actions

#### **FOOTNOTES:**

n1 31 U.S.C. §§ 3729-3733 (2000).

n2 United States *ex rel*. Roby v. Boeing Co., 302 F.3d 637, 641 (6th Cir. 2002) ("The FCA has since become the primary means by which the Government combats and deters fraud."); Ron R. Hutchinson, *The Government's Audit and Investigative Powers over Commercial Item Contracts and Subcontracts*, 27 PUB. CONT. L.J. 263, 286 (1998) ("The Civil False Claims Act is the Government's primary vehicle for pursuing civil fraud . . . .").

n3 JOHN T. BOESE, CIVIL FALSE CLAIMS AND QUI TAM ACTIONS 1-3 (Supp. 1999) ("combating fraud in virtually every program involving federal funds").

n4 Press Release, U.S. Dep't of Justice, Justice Department Recovers \$ 2 Billion for Fraud Against the Government in FY 2007; More Than \$ 20 Billion Since 1986 (Nov. 1, 2007), http://www.usdoj.gov/opa/pr/2007/November/07\_civ\_873.html.

n5 Id.

n6 See, e.g., United States v. Cushman & Wakefield, Inc., 275 F. Supp. 2d 763, 768-74 (N.D. Tex. 2002) (addressing several defenses).

n7 929 F.2d 1416 (9th Cir. 1991).

n8 SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE, FALSE CLAIMS AMENDMENTS ACT OF 1986, S. REP. NO. 99-345, at 8 (1986), as reprinted in 1986 U.S.C.C.A.N. 5266, 5273 ("The False Claims Act was adopted in 1863 and signed into law by President Abraham Lincoln in order to combat rampant fraud in Civil War defense contracts."); see also United States ex rel. Wilkins v. N. Am. Constr. Corp., 173 F. Supp. 2d 601, 619 (S.D. Tex. 2001) ("The False Claims Act is a statutory cause of action intended from its inception to combat fraud against the government.").

n9 JAMES B. HELMER, JR., ANN LUGBILL, & ROBERT C. NEFF, JR., FALSE CLAIMS ACT: WHISTLEBLOWER LITIGATION \$2-4, at Inside America's Biggest Defense Scandal 28 (2d ed. 1999).

n10 Id.; ANDY PASZTOR, WHEN THE PENTAGON WAS FOR SALE 11 (1995).

n11 United States v. McNinch, 356 U.S. 595, 599 (1958).

n12 S. REP. NO. 99-345, at 10 ("The original False Claims Act also contained a provision allowing private persons, or 'relators,' to bring suit under the act.").

n13 BOESE, supra note 3, at 1-10 n.27. False claims are now prosecuted criminally pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 287. Id.

n14 See John P. Robertson, The False Claims Act, 26 ARIZ. ST. L.J. 899, 901 (1994) ("[T]he Act lay essentially dormant until World War II broke out and fraud on the government by defense contractors increased."); see BOESE, supra note 3, at 1-11 ("There are few reported [FCA] decisions prior to 1930."); Id. at 1-14 ("The dramatic increases in government spending during and after World War II triggered an upsurge in the number of FCA cases brought by the Government; the number of such cases rose again during the military buildup of the Vietnam War . . . . ").

n15 S. REP. NO. 99-345, at 2 ("up 30 percent from 1982"). The Department of Health and Human Services also reported a significant increase in entitlement program fraud. *Id*.

n16 Id.

n17 Id. at 2-3.

n18 In 1986, Congress also passed the Anti-Kickback Act, 41 U.S.C. §§ 51-58 (2000), a prohibited employment statute, 10 U.S.C. § 2408 (2006), and the Program Fraud Civil Remedies Act, 31 U.S.C. §§ 3801-3812 (2000). See Vt. Agency of Natural Res. v. United States ex rel. Stevens, 529 U.S. 765, 786 n.17 (2000) ("PFCRA was designed to operate in tandem with the FCA.... [and was] enacted at virtually the same time as the FCA was amended in 1986 . . . its scope is virtually identical to that of the FCA."). For a discussion of the prohibited employment statute, see generally Michael J. Davidson, 10 U.S.C. § 2408: An Unused Weapon in the Procurement Fraud Wars, 26 PUB. CONT. L.J. 181 (1997).

Additionally, in 1986 the FBI initiated a major investigation into defense procurement fraud, known as Operation Ill Wind. Dick Thornburgh, Foreword, Sixth Survey of White Collar Crime, 28 AM. CRIM. L. REV. 383, 385-86 (1991). By April 1991, the government had achieved convictions of twenty-seven of the largest defense contractors for defrauding the United States. Id. at 386. Similar investigative efforts by the Defense Criminal Investigative Service generated an increase in procurement fraud-related convictions, "with 283 convictions in 1990 alone." Id.

n19 See S. REP. NO. 99-345, at 2.

n20 Id. at 17. The earlier version of the FCA provided for double damages. Id.

n21 Id. at 18; see 31 U.S.C. § 3729(a)(7). A reverse false claim is a claim "to avoid a payment to the government." S. REP. NO. 99-345, at 18.

n22 Id. at 13 ("afforded protection from retaliation for his actions"); see also 31 U.S.C. § 3730(h).

n23 S. REP. NO. 99-345, at 18. The military exclusion, which had existed since 1863, was removed because Congress believed "that military code remedies [were] inadequate to ensure full recoveries for fraudulent acts by servicepersons and such persons should therefore not be exempt from False Claims Act coverage." Id. at 15.

n24 Id. at 20-21; see also BOESE, supra note 3, at 1-16 ("[T]he 1986 Amendments resolved this dispute [concerning the meaning of the statutory requirement that the person act knowingly] by explicitly eliminating the need to prove specific intent to defraud.").

n25 S. REP. NO. 99-345, at 7. Previously, some courts "required that the United States prove a violation [of the FCA] by clear and convincing, or even clear, unequivocal and convincing evidence . . . . " Id. In 1986, Congress clarified the standard of proof as being a preponderance of the evidence. Id. at 13, 30-31. See also 31 U.S.C. §

3731(c) ("In any action brought under section 3730, the United States shall be required to prove all essential elements of the cause of action, including damages, by a preponderance of the evidence.").

n26 S. REP. NO. 99-345, at 8 ("[T]he subcommittee added a modification of the statute of limitations to permit the Government to bring an action within 6 years of when the false claim is submitted (current standard) or within 3 years of when the Government learned of a violation, whichever is later."); see also 31 U.S.C. § 3731(b).

n27 31 U.S.C. § 3729(a)(1-7).

n28 See generally id. § 3729(a)(1), (2).

n29 31 U.S.C. § 3730(a), (b).

n30 Vt. Agency of Natural Res. v. United States ex rel. Stevens, 529 U.S. 765, 768 (2000). "Qui tam is short for the Latin phrase qui tam pro domino rege quam pro se ipso in hac parte sequitur, which means 'who pursues this action on our Lord the King's behalf as well as his own." Id. n.1. However, "[i]n practice, the phrase means 'an action under a statute that allows a private person to sue for a penalty, part of which the government or some specified public institution will receive." United States v. Kitsap Physicians Servs., 314 F.3d 995, 997 n.1 (9th Cir. 2002) (quoting Bryan Garner, A DICTIONARY OF MODERN LEGAL USAGE 728 (2d Ed. 1995)).

n31 United States ex rel. Lamers v. City of Green Bay, 168 F.3d 1013, 1016 (7th Cir. 1999).

n32 Vt. Agency of Natural Res., 529 U.S. at 769. Under either scenario, the relator normally receives a share of the government's recovery. *Id.* at 769-70; 31 U.S.C. § 3730(d) (2000).

n33 31 U.S.C. § 3729(a); 28 C.F.R. § 85.3(9) (2008).

n34 United States ex rel. Compton v. Midwest Specialties, Inc., 142 F.3d 296, 304 (6th Cir. 1998) (quoting United States ex rel. Marcus v. Hess, 317 U.S. 537, 549 (1943)).

n35 See Kitsap Physicians Servs., 314 F.3d at 1002; Varljen v. Cleveland Gear Co., 250 F.3d 426, 429 (6th Cir. 2001) ("[R]ecovery under the FCA is not dependent upon the government's sustaining monetary damages."); United States ex rel. Bettis v. Odebrecht Contractor of Cal., Inc., 297 F. Supp. 2d 272, 278 (D.D.C. 2004) ("even

if the government has suffered no loss").

n36 31 U.S.C. § 3730(d). Further, the court may award reasonable expenses, attorney's fees and costs to the relator to be paid by the defendant. *Id*.

n37 See United States ex rel. Becker v. Westinghouse Savannah River Co., 305 F.3d 284, 289 n.5 (4th Cir. 2002); United States ex rel. Grynberg v. Praxair, Inc., 207 F. Supp. 2d 1163, 1181 (D. Colo. 2001) (citing 31 U.S.C. § 3730(b)(4) (1982) (current version at 31 U.S.C. § 3730(b)(4) (2000)). In contrast, "[t]he government itself, of course, could still bring suit for such a violation; only private parties were barred from seeking recovery." United States ex rel. Cantekin v. Univ. of Pittsburgh, 192 F.3d 402, 408 (3d Cir. 1999).

n38 HELMER, LUGBILL & NEFF, *supra* note 9, § 2-5, at 36, 39, § 2-6(b)(2), at 46; *see also* SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE, FALSE CLAIMS AMENDMENTS ACT OF 1986, S. REP. NO. 99-345, at 8 (1986), *as reprinted in* 1986 U.S.C.C.A.N. 5266, 5273.

n39 CLAIRE M. SYLVIA, THE FALSE CLAIMS ACT: FRAUD AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT § 27, at 47 (Andrea G. Nadel et al. eds.) (2004) (quoting United States v. Burmah Oil Co., 558 F.2d 43, 46 n.1 (2d Cir. 1977).

n40 S. REP. NO. 99-345, at 12; *see also* Wang Chen-Cheng *ex rel*. United States v. FMC Corp., 975 F.2d 1412, 1419 (9th Cir. 1992) ("Courts read the amended Act as prohibiting all *qui tam* suits where the government already possessed the information, even where the relator had independently uncovered fraud against the government and the government knew of that fraud only because the relator had been decent enough to tell the government about it.").

n41 SYLVIA, supra note 39, §29, at 53.

n42 HELMER, LUGBILL & NEFF, supra note 9, §2-5, at 40.

n43 S. REP. NO. 99-345, at 12-13.

n44 *Id.* at 8 ("encourage assistance from the private citizenry").

n45 United States ex rel. Cantekin v. Univ. of Pittsburgh, 192 F.3d 402, 408 (3d Cir. 1999) (citing 31 U.S.C. §

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3730(e)(4)(A) (1994)). The public disclosure must have occurred "in a criminal, civil, or administrative hearing, in a congressional, administrative, or Government Accounting Office report, hearing, audit, or investigation, or from the news media . . . . " 31 U.S.C. § 3730(e)(4)(A).

n46 Cantekin, 192 F.3d at 408.

n47 Id. at 408-09; see also 31 U.S.C. § 3730(e)(4)(A) ("unless . . . the person bringing the action is an original source of the information").

n48 Rockwell Int'l Corp. v. United States, 549 U.S. 457, , 127 S. Ct. 1397, 1406 (2007).

n49 31 U.S.C. § 3730(e)(4)(B).

n50 See Wang Chen-Cheng ex rel. United States v. FMC Corp., 975 F.2d 1412, 1419 (9th Cir. 1992); SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE, FALSE CLAIMS AMENDMENTS ACT OF 1986, S. REP. NO. 99-345, at 12 (1986), as reprinted in 1986 U.S.C.C.A.N. 5266, 5277 ("That jurisdictional bar . . . has been applied only to private qui tam suits, and not those suits taken over by the Government.").

n51 United States ex rel. Hagood v. Sonoma County Water Agency, 929 F.2d 1416, 1421 (9th Cir. 1991); see also United States v. Southland Mgmt. Corp., 326 F.3d 669, 682 n.9 (5th Cir. 2003) (en banc) (Jones, J., concurring) ("In principle, it would seem that the government's knowledge of a false claim would not be an effective defense if the person making the false statement did not know that the government knew it was false . . .."); Shaw v. AAA Eng'g & Drafting, Inc., 213 F.3d 519 (10th Cir. 2000).

n52 Shaw, 213 F.3d at 534 ("language was removed in 1986"); Hagood, 929 F.2d at 1420 ("language disappeared from the statute with the 1986 amendments").

n53 31 U.S.C. § 3730(e)(4).

n54 United States ex rel. Lamers v. City of Green Bay, 998 F. Supp. 971, 988 (E.D. Wis. 1998) (citing United States ex rel. Butler v. Hughes Helicopters, Inc., 71 F.3d 321, 326 (9th Cir. 1995), aff d 168 F.3d 1013 (7th Cir. 1999)); see also Butler, 71 F.3d at 326 ("The 1986 amendments eliminated this language, however, leaving open what would be the effect of government knowledge of the facts underlying a suit.").

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n55 See S. REP. NO. 99-345, at 7.

n56 Lamers, 998 F. Supp. at 987 (citing S. REP. NO. 99-345, at 7); see also S. REP. NO. 99-345, at 7 ("Currently, in judicial districts observing an 'actual knowledge' standard, the Government is unable to hold responsible those corporate officers who insulate themselves from knowledge of false claims submitted by lower-level subordinates."); id. at 21 ("[T]he constructive knowledge definition attempts to reach what has become known as the 'ostrich' type situation where an individual has 'buried his head in the sand' and failed to make simple inquiries which would alert him that false claims are being submitted."); United States v. NHC Healthcare Corp., 115 F. Supp. 2d 1149, 1153 (W.D. Mo. 2000) ("The purpose of this particular definition of 'knowing' was to avoid the claimants who bury their heads in the sand and purposefully submit in ignorance a false claim.").

n57 31 U.S.C. § 3729(a)(3) (conspiring to defraud); id. § 3729(a)(4) (intending to defraud by delivering less property than in the defendant's possession); id. § 3729(a)(5) (intending to defraud by making or delivering a receipt certifying receipt of property "without completely knowing that the information on the receipt is true"); see also HELMER, LUGBILL & NEFF., supra note 9, § 3-15, at 110 ("With the exception of claims brought under 31 U.S.C. § 3729(a)(3), (a)(4), and (a)(5), the [FCA's] only 'scienter' requirement is a 'knowing violation."').

n58 31 U.S.C. § 3729(b).

n59 United States ex rel. Humphrey v. Franklin-Williamson Human Servs., Inc., 189 F. Supp. 2d 862, 867 (S.D. Ill. 2002); see also United States v. Inc. Vill. of Island Park, 888 F. Supp. 419, 439 (E.D.N.Y. 1995) ("[T]he government need not prove an intent to defraud, but only that the violations were committed knowingly, that is with willful blindness to the existence of a fact or reckless disregard for the truth." (citing United States v. Foster Wheeler Corp., 316 F. Supp. 963, 967 (S.D.N.Y. 1970))).

n60 31 U.S.C. § 3729(b); see also United States ex rel. Quirk v. Madonna Towers, Inc., 278 F.3d 765, 767 (8th Cir. 2002) ("No proof of specific intent to defraud the government is required." (citing 31 U.S.C. § 3729(b))).

n61 706 F. Supp. 795 (D. Utah 1988).

n62 Id. at 799. A government commission that investigated the Challenger disaster attributed the cause of the explosion to a gas leak in a joint's seal, which was located between two portions of one of the solid rocket motors. Id. at 798. The plaintiff's employment for Morton Thiokol involved work with the solid rocket motors. Id. at 799.

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n63 *Id.* at 803. In addition to his *qui tam*, Boisjoly pursued unsuccessfully several statutory and common law claims. *Id.* at 799-807.

n64 Id. at 809-10.

n65 *Id.* at 809 (citing United States v. Fox Lake State Bank, 366 F.2d 962, 965 (7th Cir. 1966); Woodbury v. United States, 232 F. Supp. 49, 54-55 (D. Or. 1964), *modified*, 359 F.2d 370 (9th Cir. 1966); and United States v. Schmidt, 204 F. Supp. 540 (E.D. Wis. 1962)). Although proceeding under different legal theories, the courts relied on the government's knowledge to rule in favor of the FCA defendants. *Fox Lake State Bank*, 366 F.3d at 965-66 (applying an estoppel theory); *Woodbury*, 232 F. Supp. at 54-55 (finding no intent to defraud); *Schmidt*, 204 F. Supp. at 544 (finding no intent to commit fraud or violate the FCA). Although these pre-1986 cases are of limited applicability because of the changes in the law, they and others like them provided an equitable rationale similar to that reflected in the modern government knowledge defense. *See* United States *ex rel*. Lamers v. City of Green Bay, 998 F. Supp. 971, 988 (E.D. Wis. 1998) ("[T]he equitable rationale behind the defense has an impressive pedigree in this circuit." (discussing *Schmidt*, 204 F. Supp. at 540; *Fox Lake State Bank*, 366 F.2d at 962)).

n66 Boisjoly, 706 F. Supp. at 809.

n67 Id.

n68 Id. at 810.

n69 Id.

n70 Id. at 810-11.

n71 Id. at 811.

n72 See United States ex rel. Kriendler & Kreindler v. United Techs. Corp., 985 F.2d 1148, 1156 (2d Cir. 1993) ("We agree that [Boisjoly] is an unreliable guide." (agreeing with United States ex rel. Hagood v. Sonoma County Water Agency, 929 F.2d 1416, 1421 (9th Cir. 1991))); Hagood, 929 F.2d at 1421 (9th Cir. 1991) ("Boisjoly may be defensible on its facts; its dicta are an unreliable guide."); cf. Tyger Constr. Co. v. United States, 28 Fed. Cl. 35, 59 (1993) ("This court discerns several problems with Boisjoly.").

n73 See Shaw v. AAA Eng'g & Drafting, Inc., 213 F.3d 519, 534-35 (10th Cir. 2000).
n74 <i>Id</i> . at 534 ("[G]overnment knowledge of a contractor's wrongdoing is no longer an automatic defense ")
n75 <i>Id</i> .
n76 See infra note 119 and accompanying text.
n77 929 F.2d 1416 (9th Cir. 1991).
n78 United States <i>ex rel</i> . Kriendler & Kreindler v. United Techs. Corp., 985 F.2d 1148, 1156 (2d Cir. 1993) ("[W]e agree with <i>Hagood</i> .").
n79 Varljen v. Cleveland Gear Co., 250 F.3d 426, 430 (6th Cir. 2001).
n80 United States ex rel. Durcholz v. FKW, Inc., 189 F.3d 542, 544-45 (7th Cir. 1999).
n81 Shaw v. AAA Eng'g & Drafting, Inc., 213 F.3d 519, 534 (10th Cir. 2000).
n82 See Tyger Constr. Co. v. United States, 28 Fed. Cl. 35, 59 (1993).
n83 See United States v. Fiske, 968 F. Supp. 1347, 1352 (E.D. Ark. 1997); United States ex rel. Mayman v. Martin Marietta Corp., 894 F. Supp. 218, 223 (D. Md. 1995); United States ex rel. Milam v. Regents of Univ. of Cal., 912 F. Supp. 868, 888-89 (D. Md. 1995); X Corp. v. Doe, 816 F. Supp. 1086, 1094 (E.D. Va. 1993).
n84 The United States declined to intervene in the case beyond moving to dismiss certain individual defendants. United States <i>ex rel</i> . Hagood v. Sonoma County Water Agency, 929 F.2d 1416, 1418 (9th Cir. 1991) ("Hagood proceeded as the sole plaintiff ").
n85 <i>Id</i> .

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n86 <i>Id</i> .
n87 <i>Id</i> .
n88 <i>Id.</i> The district court relied on reasoning under similar facts in <i>Boisjoly v. Morton Thiokol, Inc.</i> , 706 F. Supp. 795, 808-10 (D. Utah 1988).
n89 Hagood, 929 F.2d at 1419 (internal quotation marks omitted).
n90 <i>Id.</i> at 1422.
n91 <i>Id.</i> at 1420.
n92 <i>Id.</i> at 1422. Further, the court noted that in order for the defendant "[t]o take advantage of a disputed legal question [it could] be neither deliberately ignorant nor recklessly disregardful." <i>Id.</i> at 1421.
n93 <i>Id.</i> (citing United States v. Ehrlich, 643 F.2d 634, 638-39 (9th Cir. 1981).
n94 <i>Id</i> .
n95 <i>Id</i> .
n96 See BOESE, supra note 3, at 2-78 ("The 'government knowledge' defense to 'falsity' was dealt a further blow by the Ninth Circuit's first decision in [Hagood]."). Id.
n97 <i>Hagood</i> , 929 F.2d at 1421 ("It may be, as the district court observed, that no damages were suffered when officers of the United States knowledgeably decided to proceed with the contract.").
n98 Id. ("No damages need be shown in order to recover the penalty." (citing Rex Trailer Co. v. United States,

350 U.S. 148, 153 n.5 (1956))).
n99 <i>Id.</i> at 1421-22 (quoting Heckler v. Cmty. Health Servs., 467 U.S. 51, 60, 61 (1984)).
n100 Id. at 1422 (quoting Heckler, 467 U.S. at 63).
n101 975 F.2d 1412 (9th Cir. 1992).
n102 <i>Id</i> . at 1414.
n103 <i>Id</i> . at 1421.
n104 <i>Id</i> . at 1416.
n105 <i>Id</i> . The memorandum "was part of a dialogue with the Army." <i>Id</i> . at 1421.
n106 <i>Id</i> .
n107 <i>Id</i> .
n108 <i>Id.</i> Hardly the model of clarity, the court's use of the concept of a scientifically untrue statement was equated with "scientific error[]" or a scientific theory not fully embraced within the scientific community, as opposed to an outright falsehood, one that was morally wrong. <i>Id.</i> ; <i>see</i> United States <i>ex rel</i> . Harris v. Bernad 275 F. Supp. 2d 1, 6 (D.D.C. 2003) ("[M]ere disagreements over scientific opinion, methodology, and judgments do not amount to claims under the FCA." (citing <i>Wang Chen-Cheng</i> , 975 F.2d at 1420-21)).
n109 71 F.3d 321 (9th Cir. 1995).
n110 Id. at 324, 325.

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n111 <i>Id</i> . at 325.	
n112 <i>Id</i> .	
n113 <i>Id.</i> at 326 (alteration in original).	
n114 <i>Id</i> .	
n115 <i>Id</i> .	
n116 <i>Id.</i> at 328.	
n117 <i>Id</i> . at 329.	

n118 Shaw v. AAA Eng'g & Drafting, Inc., 213 F.3d 519, 534 (10th Cir. 2000) ("[G]overnment knowledge of a contractor's wrongdoing is no longer an automatic defense." (citing United States *ex rel*. Hagood v. Sonoma County Water Agency, 929 F.2d 1416, 1420 (9th Cir. 1991); 31 U.S.C. §§ 3729-3733 (2000))); *see also* Varljen v. Cleveland Gear Co., 250 F.3d 426, 430 (6th Cir. 2001) ("[E]ven the government's knowledge of a fraud does not necessarily absolve a contractor from liability under the FCA." (citing *Hagood*, 929 F.2d at 1421)); United States *ex rel*. Kriendler & Kreindler v. United Techs. Corp., 985 F.2d 1148, 1156 (2d Cir. 1993) (concurring with *Hagood*, which "expressly rejected the contention that government knowledge of the falsity of a claim automatically bars an FCA action") citing *Hagood*, 929 F.2d at 1416)); United States *ex rel*. Longhi v. Lithium Power Techs., Inc., 513 F. Supp. 2d 866, 883-84 (S.D. Tex. 2007); United States *ex rel*. Bettis v. Odebrecht Contractors of Cal., 297 F. Supp. 2d 272, 294 (D.D.C. 2004) ("[T]he government's knowledge, while perhaps not a complete defense, is not 'irrelevant.'"); United States v. Fiske, 968 F. Supp. 1347, 1352 (E.D. Ark. 1997); United States *ex rel*. Milam v. Regents of Univ. of Cal., 912 F. Supp. 868, 888 (D. Md. 1995) ("not an absolute defense" (citing Kriendler, 985 F.2d at 1156-57)).

n119 *Hagood*, 929 F.2d at 1421 ("That the relevant government officials know of the falsity is not in itself a defense." (citing United States v. Ehrlich, 643 F.2d 634, 638-39 (9th Cir. 1981))); *see also* United States *ex rel*. Mayman v. Martin Marietta Corp., 894 F. Supp. 218, 223 (D. Md. 1995); United States v. Inc. Vill. of Island Park, 888 F. Supp. 419, 442 (E.D.N.Y. 1995) ("[I]f the defendants knowingly presented or caused to be presented false or fraudulent claims, then it is not a defense that the government officials also knew the claims were false but continued to pay the claims." (citing *Kriendler*, 985 F.2d at 1156)); JOHN CIBINIC, JR. & RALPH C. NASH, JR., FORMATION OF GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS 168-69 (3d ed. 1998) ("[T]he fact that the germane Government officials knew of a claim's falsity is not a defense." (citing *Hagood*, 929 F.2d 1416)).

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n120 United States *ex rel*. A+ Homecare, Inc. v. Medshares Mgmt. Group, Inc., 400 F.3d 428, 455 n.21 (6th Cir. 2005) (citing *Kriendler*, 985 F.2d at 1156; *Hagood*, 929 F.2d at 1421).

n121 See United States ex rel. Butler v. Hughes Helicopters, Inc., 71 F.3d 321, 326 (9th Cir. 1995) ("[C]ourts have had to decide case by case whether a FCA claim based on information in the government's possession can succeed.").

n122 See generally United States ex rel. Laird v. Lockheed Martin Eng'g & Sci. Servs. Co., 491 F.3d 254, 262-63 (5th Cir. 2007) (finding Lockheed did not act knowingly); United States ex rel. Costner v. United States, 317 F.3d 883, 887 (8th Cir. 2003) ("[The government's] knowledge . . . bears on whether the defendants had the requisite intent under the Act." (citing United States ex rel. Becker v. Westinghouse Savannah River Co., 305 F.3d 284, 289 (4th Cir. 2002))); Becker, 305 F.3d at 289 ("can negate the scienter required for an FCA violation" (citing United States v. Southland Mgmt. Corp., 288 F.3d 665, 686 (5th Cir. 2002))); Shaw, 213 F.3d at 534; Kriendler, 985 F.2d at 1157; Hagood, 929 F.2d at 1421)); United States ex rel. Stone v. Rockwell Int'l Corp., 282 F.3d 787, 811 (10th Cir. 2002) ("cast doubt on whether he 'knowingly' submitted a false claim" (citing Butler, 71 F.3d at 326-27)), rev'd in part on other grounds, 549 U.S. 457 (2007); Shaw, 213 F.3d at 534 ("[Contractor may not] possess the requisite state of mind" (citing Butler, 71 F.3d at 327; Wang Chen-Cheng ex rel. United States v. FMC Corp., 975 F.2d 1412, 1421 (9th Cir. 1992))); United States ex rel. Durcholz v. FKW, Inc., 189 F.3d 542, 545 (7th Cir. 1999) ("cannot be said to have knowingly presented a fraudulent or false claim" (citing United States ex rel. Lamers v. City of Green Bay, 168 F.3d 1013, 1018 (7th Cir. 1999); Hindo v. Univ. of Health Scis./Chicago Med. Sch., 65 F.3d 608, 613-14 (7th Cir. 1995))); Kriendler, 985 F.2d at 1156, 1157 ("may show that the contractor has not 'knowingly' submitted a false claim" (citing *Hagood*, 929 F.2d at 1421)); Hagood, 929 F.2d at 1421 ("Such knowledge may show that the defendant did not submit its claim in deliberate ignorance or reckless disregard of the truth."); Longhi, 513 F. Supp. 2d at 883 ("can rebut scienter"); Bettis, 297 F. Supp. 2d at 294 ("serves to negate a finding of scienter"). But cf. Costner, 317 F.3d at 887 (noting that government knowledge may also serve as a defense to the FCA's materiality element).

n123 929 F.2d at 1421.

n124 Id. (citing United States v. Ehrlich, 643 F.2d 634, 638-39 (9th Cir. 1981)).

n125 Id.

n126 See United States v. Southland Mgmt. Corp., 326 F.3d 669, 682-83 n.9 (5th Cir. 2003) (en banc) (Jones, J., concurring) ("In principle, it would seem that the government's knowledge of a false claim would not be an effective defense if the person making the false statement did not know that the government knew it was false . . . ." (citing Durcholz, 189 F.3d at 544-45)).

n127 Id. at 682.

n128 213 F.3d 519 (10th Cir. 2000).

n129 Id. at 527. The contract required AAA to provide equipment to remove trace silver from the photography development process and to properly dispose of various chemicals in compliance with federal standards. Id. Instead, AAA managers directed that the chemicals be deposited in the drain, and various employees complied with that directive. Id. When questioned by government contracting officials, AAA management was evasive about meeting their environmental contractual obligations until the Air Force Office of Special Investigations closed AAA's main photography laboratory. *Id.* at 527-28.

n130 Id. at 534.

n131 See Southland Mgmt. Corp., 326 F.3d at 682 n.9 (Jones, J., concurring) ("In principle, it would seem that the government's knowledge of a false claim would not be an effective defense . . . if the claimant was colluding with the government employee to submit a false claim . . . . " (citing *Durcholz*, 189 F.3d at 544-45)).

n132 Durcholz, 189 F.3d at 546.

n133 *Id.* at 545; see also United States ex rel. Tyson v. Amerigroup Ill., Inc., No. 02 C-6074, 2005 WL 3111972, at \*6 (N.D. Ill. Oct. 21, 2005) ("The Court of Appeals' conjunctive phrasing--'if the government knows and approves'--would appear to have been purposeful and intended to signal that mere knowledge alone of illegality would not enable those who defraud the government from being able to draw a conjurer's circle around their illegality and insulate themselves from condign punishment.").

n134 See United States ex rel. Costner v. United States, 317 F.3d 883, 887 (8th Cir. 2003); United States ex rel. Becker v. Westinghouse Savannah River Co., 305 F.3d 284, 289 (4th Cir. 2002); see also Am. Contract Servs. v. Allied Mold & Die, Inc., 114 Cal. Rptr. 2d 773, 779-80 (Cal. Ct. App. 2001).

n135 United States ex rel. Tyson v. Amerigroup Ill., Inc., 488 F. Supp. 2d 719, 730 (N.D. Ill. 2007) (citing United States ex rel. Asch v. Teller, Levit & Silvertrust, P.C., No. 00-C-3289, 2004 WL 1093784, at \*3 (N.D. Ill. May 7, 2004)).

n136 See Southland Mgmt. Corp., 326 F.3d at 682 (noting that in many cases government knowledge and acquiescence "was 'highly relevant' to show that the contractor did not submit payment claims in deliberate

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ignorance or reckless disregard of their truth or falsity" (citation omitted)). However, for this position the court in Southland cited United States ex rel. Hagood v. Sonoma County Water Agency, 929 F.2d 1416, 1421 (9th Cir. 1991). Id. A fair reading of that opinion fails to reveal the articulation of any such definitive standard. See Hagood, 929 F.2d at 1421.

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n137 United States ex rel. Laird v. Lockheed Martin Eng'g & Sci. Servs., Co., 491 F.3d 254, 263 (5th Cir. 2007) (emphasis added) (quoting *Durcholz*, 189 F.3d at 545); accord Tyson, 488 F. Supp. 2d at 729-30.

n138 See United States ex rel. Englund v. Los Angeles County, No. Civ. S-04-282-LKK/JFM, 2006 WL 3097941, at \*8 (E.D. Cal. Oct. 31, 2006) ("when responsible government officials have been fully apprised of all relevant information" (citing United States ex rel. Lamers v. City of Green Bay, 168 F.3d 1013, 1018 (7th Cir. 1999))).

n139 See, e.g., United States ex rel. Butler v. Hughes Helicopters, Inc., 71 F.3d 321, 326, 328 (9th Cir. 1995) (noting that the government knew and approved the specific testing method at issue); X Corp. v. Doe, 816 F. Supp. 1086, 1093 (E.D. Va. 1993) ("X Corp. disclosed to the government that computer equipment supplied under the MASC contract might contain remanufactured components."); Boisjoly v. Morton Thiokol, Inc., 706 F. Supp. 795, 810 (D. Utah 1988) ("informed NASA... of these concerns and their basis").

n140 See infra note 142 and accompanying text.

n141 Hagood, 929 F.2d at 1421 ("relevant government officials"); United States ex rel. Gudur v. Deloitte Consulting LLP, 512 F. Supp. 2d 920, 932 (S.D. Tex. 2007) ("[N]o violation exists where relevant government officials are informed of the alleged falsity . . . . "); United States v. Fiske, 968 F. Supp. 1347, 1352 (E.D. Ark. 1997); see also United States ex rel. Werner v. Fuentez Sys. Concepts, Inc., 115 Fed. App'x 127, 128 (4th Cir. 2004) ("the OSC officials responsible for managing their contracts"); United States ex rel. Grynberg v. Praxair, Inc., 207 F. Supp. 2d 1163, 1178 (D. Colo. 2001) ("known to and approved by the responsible government authorities"); United States ex rel. Durcholz v. FKW, Inc., 997 F. Supp. 1143, 1156 (S.D. Ind. 1998) ("many, if not all, of the relevant Navy officials did know"), aff d, 189 F.3d 542 (7th Cir. 1999); United States ex rel. Lamers v. City of Green Bay, 998 F. Supp. 971, 988 (E.D. Wis. 1998) ("responsible government officials"), aff d, 168 F.3d 1013 (7th Cir. 1999); CIBINIC & NASH, supra note 119, at 168 ("germane Government officials knew"); cf. United States ex rel. Kriendler & Kreindler v. United Techs. Corp., 985 F.2d 1148, 1156 (2d Cir. 1993) (concurring with *Hagood*).

n142 United States ex rel. Becker v. Westinghouse Savannah River Co., 305 F.3d 284, 289 (4th Cir. 2002) ("DOE's full knowledge of the material facts underlying any representations implicit in Westinghouse's conduct negates any knowledge that Westinghouse had regarding the truth or falsity of those representations." (emphasis added)); Shaw v. AAA Eng'g & Drafting, Inc., 213 F.3d 519, 534 (10th Cir. 2000) ("Nevertheless, there may still be occasions when the government's knowledge of or cooperation with a contractor's actions is so extensive that the contractor could not as a matter of law possess the requisite state of mind to be liable under the FCA."

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(citing *Butler*, 71 F.3d at 327; Wang Chen-Cheng *ex rel*. United States v. FMC Corp., 975 F.2d 1412, 1421 (9th Cir. 1992)) (emphasis added)); *Wang Chen-Cheng*, 975 F.2d at 1421 ("FMC was open with the government . . . "); United States v. Prabhu, 442 F. Supp. 2d 1008, 1030 (D. Nev. 2006) ("complied with Government instructions regarding the claims" (citing 31 U.S.C. § 3729(b) (2000))); United States *ex rel*. Werner v. Fuentez Sys. Concepts, Inc., 319 F. Supp. 2d 682, 685 (N.D.W. Va. 2004) ("full knowledge of the defendants' billing practices" by the "Coast Guard officials responsible for handling the contracts"), *aff'd*, 115 F. App'x 127 (4th Cir. 2004); United States *ex rel*. Bettis v. Odebrecht Contractors of Cal., 297 F. Supp. 2d 272, 297 (D.D.C. 2004) ("*fully aware* of and approved of the way that defendant calculated its claims for progress payments" (emphasis added)).

n143 282 F.3d 787, 812 (10th Cir. 2002), rev'd in part on other grounds, 549 U.S. 457 (2007).

n144 Id.

n145 *Id.* & n.11. The court appeared to suggest that this broader range of individuals included "certain authorized representatives of the Contracting Officer acting within the limits of their authority as delegated by the Contracting Officer." *Id.* n.11.

n146 71 F.3d 321 (9th Cir. 1995); Stone, 282 F.3d at 812 n.12.

n147 See Stone, 282 F.3d at 812 n.12 ("Butler rejected the argument that for purposes of determining whether the defendant 'knowingly' submitted a false claim to the Government, only contracting officers' knowledge is relevant.").

n148 Id.

n149 Id. at 812 n.11.

n150 Under agency law, there exists the concept of "apparent" authority. "An agent has 'apparent' authority . . . where the principal has held out the agent as having such authority or has permitted the agent to represent that he has such authority." United States v. Schaltenbrand, 930 F.2d 1554, 1560 (11th Cir. 1991). However, in government procurement law, the United States cannot be bound under the theory of apparent authority. JOHN CIBINIC, JR., RALPH C. NASH, JR. & JAMES F. NAGLE, ADMINISTRATION OF GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS 31 (4th ed. 2006) ("Recognizing the importance of effective government control over the conduct of its agents, the courts and boards have rejected the apparent authority rule, holding that *actual authority* is required to bind the government."); *see also* Telenor Satellite Servs., Inc. v. United States, 71 Fed. Cl. 114, 119 (2006) (noting that apparent authority is insufficient to bind the government); Am. Anchor & Chain Corp. v.

United States, 331 F.2d 860, 861-62 (Ct. Cl. 1964) (noting that conduct of employee with apparent authority binds a contractor, but only actual authority of a government employee will bind the United States).

n151 Fed. Crop Ins. Corp. v. Merrill, 332 U.S. 380, 384-85 (1947); Starflight Boats v. United States, 48 Fed. Cl. 592, 597-98 (2001); see also Ralph C. Nash & John Cibinic, Contracting Authority of Government Employees: Handle with Care!, in 12 NASH AND CIBINIC REPORT 9, P50, at 138 (1998) ("The rule is clear that the Government is only bound by the acts of its employees that are within the scope of their actual authority.") [hereinafter NASH & CIBINIC REPORT].

n152 Real Estate Technical Advisors, Inc., 03-1 B.C.A. (CCH) P32,074 at 158,507 (A.S.B.C.A. Nov. 18, 2002).

n153 Winter v. Cath-Dr/Balti Joint Venture, 497 F.3d 1339, 1344 (Fed. Cir. 2007); see CIBINIC, NASH & NAGLE, supra note 150, at 31 ("Contracting officers have the sole authority to legally bind the government to contracts and contract modifications."); see also 48 C.F.R. § 1.601(a) (2007) ("Contracts may be entered into and signed on behalf of the Government only by contracting officers."). The Federal Acquisition Regulation is contained in 48 C.F.R. Chapter 1. Contracting officers' authority "flows from the head of the agency." CIBINIC, NASH & NAGLE, supra note 150, at 33.

n154 48 C.F.R. § 1.602-1(a).

n155 Id. § 43.102(a).

n156 Id. § 1.603-3(a); see also id. § 1.602-1(a) (requiring clear written instructions concerning the limits of their authority); NASH & CIBINIC REPORT, supra note 151, P50, at 138 ("The scope of a CO's authority can generally be found by looking at the internal document granting the authority.").

n157 48 C.F.R. § 1.602-1(a) ("Information on the limits of the contracting officers' authority shall be readily available to the public and agency personnel.").

n158 NASH & CIBINIC REPORT, supra note 151, P50, at 141.

n159 Winter v. Cath-Dr/Balti Joint Venture, 497 F.3d 1339, 1344 (Fed. Cir. 2007) ("When authorized, the contracting officer may delegate some of its authority to certain designated representatives, who act on behalf of the government during contract administration." (citing CIBINIC, NASH & NAGLE, supra note 150, at 39)).

n160 48 C.F.R. § 1.602-1(a); see also id. § 2.101(b). However, contracting officers may bind the government only to the extent that authority has been delegated to them to do so. *Id.* § 1.602-1(a).

n161 The contracting officer may delegate authority to his/her authorized representatives. *Id.* § 2.101(b); *see also* CIBINIC, NASH & NAGLE, *supra* note 150, at 37 (contracting officers may be granted authority to appoint subsidiary contracting officers or other representatives).

n162 The ACO is a type of contracting officer that administers a contract after it has been awarded. 48 C.F.R. § 2.101(b). Contracting officers who award the contract are known as procuring contracting officers (PCO) who may also retain some or all authority for administering the contract. CIBINIC, NASH & NAGLE, *supra* note 150, at 37. Indeed, "[a] single contracting officer may be responsible for duties in any or all of these areas." 48 C.F.R. § 2.101(b) (referring to the procuring, administration, and termination of a contract).

n163 The TCO is a type of contracting officer who settles terminated contracts. 48 C.F.R. § 2.101(b).

n164 CIBINIC, NASH & NAGLE, supra note 150, at 39.

n165 Id.

n166 *Id.* at 30-31. Government employees other than contracting officers may be delegated authority to perform various contract-related functions. *Id.* at 31.

n167 Id. at 33.

n168 Id. at 43.

n169 Real Estate Technical Advisors, Inc., 03-1 B.C.A. (CCH) P32,074 at 158,507 (A.S.B.C.A. Nov. 18, 2002).

n170 Telenor Satellite Servs., Inc. v. United States, 71 Fed. Cl. 114, 120 (2006) (alteration in original) (quoting H. Landau & Co. v United States, 886 F.2d 322, 324 (Fed. Cir. 1989)); *see also* Brunner v. United States, 70 Fed. Cl. 623, 640-41 (2006); Real Estate Technical Advisors, Inc., 03-1 B.C.A. P32,074, at 158,507; CIBINIC, NASH & NAGLE, *supra* note 150, at 44.

n171 Confidential Informant v. United States, 46 Fed. Cl. 1, 7 (2000) (quoting Roy v. United States, 38 Fed. Cl. 184, 189 (1997)).

n172 CIBINIC, NASH & NAGLE, supra note 150, at 43; see also Brunner, 70 Fed. Cl. at 641 ("This implied authority to contract must be based upon 'at the least, some limited, related authority." (citing Cal. Sand & Gravel, Inc., v. United States, 22 Cl. Ct. 19, 27 (1990))).

n173 See Starflight Boats v. United States, 48 Fed. Cl. 592, 599 (2001) ("Although Brian was involved in the administration of this contract, a person with no actual authority can not acquire actual authority 'through the court-made rule of implied actual authority." (quoting Cal. Sand & Gravel, Inc., 22 Cl. Ct. at 27)).

n174 See United States v. Nat'l Wholesalers, 236 F.2d 944, 950 (9th Cir. 1956) ("[W]e do not believe that the Congress ever intended that contracting officers should have the power to vitiate the False Claims statute."); see also United States v. Cushman & Wakefield, Inc., 275 F. Supp. 2d 763, 771 (N.D. Tex. 2002) ("A violation of the rights of the United States may not be waived or ratified by the unauthorized acts of its agents."); United States ex rel. Mayman v. Martin Marietta Corp., 894 F. Supp. 218, 223 (D. Md. 1995) ("[A] government officer cannot authorize a contractor to violate federal regulations."); United States v. Cripps, 460 F. Supp. 969, 973-74 (E.D. Mich. 1978) (stating that a federal employee who urges someone to defraud the government acts ultra vires). Because they lack the authority to waive fraud, acquisition officials cannot "ratify" such conduct. See CIBINIC, NASH & NAGLE, supra note 150, at 48 ("[I]llegal actions cannot be ratified because officials lack the authority to enter into illegal agreements."); cf. Winter v. Cath-DR/Balti Joint Venture, 497 F.3d 1339, 1347 (Fed. Cir. 2007) (noting that authority is a prerequisite to ratification).

n175 Mayman, 894 F. Supp at 223 ("A contractor who tells a government contracting officer that a claim is false still violates the statute when the false claim is submitted." (citing United States ex rel. Hagood v. Sonoma County Water Agency, 929 F.2d 1416, 1421 (9th Cir. 2001))); Cripps, 460 F. Supp. at 973 ("To the extent that defendant is urging that someone at HUD authorized him to engage in this conduct to defraud HUD and submit false claims and derive a benefit therefrom, such assertion even if true is no defense to plaintiff's [FCA] claim."); cf. Hagood, 929 F.2d at 1421 ("That the relevant government officials know of the falsity is not in itself a defense." (citing United States v. Ehrlich, 643 F.2d, 638-39 (9th Cir. 1981))); United States v. Inc. Vill. of Island Park, 888 F. Supp. 419, 442 (E.D.N.Y. 1995) ("Defendants knowingly caused false claims to be presented and that, after the government became aware of the underlying scheme, it continued to pay claims only because it had already become contractually bound to make those payments as a result of the defendant's fraudulent course of conduct.").

n176 Nat'l Wholesalers, 236 F.2d at 950; see also United States ex rel. McCray Sanitation Serv. v. Midwest Container Co., 7 F.3d 1046, at \*2 (10th Cir. 1993) (unpublished table decision) ("[Contracting agency cannot] 'ratify' any previous fraud by [contractor].").

n177 48 C.F.R. § 33.210(b) (2007).

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n178 41 U.S.C. § 605(a) (2000).

n179 See United States v. United Techs. Corp., No. 5:92-CV-375 (EBB), 1996 WL 653620, at \*2 (D. Conn. Oct. 11, 1996) ("The statute's restriction on the authority of agency heads should be read as encompassing their subordinates."); cf. Contract Disputes Act of 1978, S. REP. NO. 95-1118, at 19 (1978), as reprinted in 1978 U.S.C.C.A.N. 5235, 5253 ("[I]t is not the intent of this section to authorize Agency heads, contracting officers, or agency boards to settle or compromise claims independent of their legal or contractual merits . . . . ").

n180 See United States ex rel. A+ Homecare, Inc. v. Medshares Mgmt. Group, Inc., 400 F.3d 428, 455 n.21 (6th Cir. 2005) ("[Government knowledge may be] used to demonstrate that what the defendant submitted was not actually false but rather conformed to a modified agreement . . . . "); United States ex rel. Kreindler & Kreindler v. United Techs. Corp., 985 F.2d 1148, 1157 (2d Cir. 1993) ("In some cases, the fact that government officials knew of the contractor's actions may show that the contract has been modified or that its intent has been clarified, and therefore that the claim submitted by the contractor was not 'false.'").

n181 48 C.F.R. § 33.210 (noting that contracting officers are authorized to resolve and decide contractual claims).

n182 48 C.F.R. § 33.204 ("The Government's policy is to try to resolve all contractual issues in controversy by mutual agreement at the contracting officer's level.").

n183 United States ex rel. Bettis v. Odebrecht Contractors of Cal., Inc., 297 F. Supp. 2d 272, 294 (D.D.C. 2004); cf. United States ex rel. Stebner v. Stewart & Stephenson Servs., Inc., 144 F. App'x 389, 394 (5th Cir. 2005) (applying government knowledge defense when "the Government negotiated contract modifications in response to the well-documented corrosion problem.").

n184 See Fed. Crop Ins. Corp. v. Merrill, 332 U.S. 380, 384-85 (1947) ("Just as everyone is charged with knowledge of the United States Statutes at Large, Congress has provided that the appearance of rules and regulations in the Federal Register gives legal notice of their contents." (citing Federal Register Act, ch. 417, sec. 7, 49 stat. 500, 502 (1935))); Nobles v. Rural Cmty. Ins. Servs., 303 F. Supp. 2d 1292, 1303 (M.D. Ala. 2004) ("[charged] with notice of the provisions in the Code of Federal Regulations" (citing Merrill, 332 U.S. at 384-85)); In re Doe I, 969 F. Supp. 561, 563 (D. Ariz. 1996).

n185 Merrill, 332 U.S. at 385 (quoting Rock Island, Ark. & La. R.R. Co. v. United States, 254 U.S. 141, 143 (1920)).

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n186 NASH & CIBINIC REPORT, supra note 151, P50, at 139 (citation omitted).

n187 Brunner v. United States, 70 Fed. Cl. 623, 644 (2006) ("[P]ublicly-accessible laws or regulations can limit the contracting authority that would otherwise be implied by a government agent's related powers, for potential contractors are on notice of such restrictions."); NASH & CIBINIC REPORT, *supra* note 151, P50, at 139 ("Agency regulations may also contain limitations on authority and such regulations will be binding on contractors if they are published.").

n188 Winter v. Cath-Dr/Balti Joint Venture, 497 F.3d 1339, 1346 (Fed. Cir. 2007) ("[C]ould not have had the implicit authority to authorize contract modifications because the contract language and the government regulation it incorporates by reference explicitly state that only the contracting officer had the authority to modify the contract.") (emphasis omitted).

n189 United States *ex rel*. Compton v. Midwest Specialties, Inc., 142 F.3d 296, 302 n.4 (6th Cir. 1998) ("[T]he 'square-corners' rule applies fully in the False Claims Act context." (citing United States v. Aerodex, Inc., 469 F.2d 1003, 1007 (5th Cir. 1972))); *but cf.* United States *ex rel*. A+ Homecare, Inc. v. Medshares Mgmt. Group, Inc., 400 F.3d 428, 446 (6th Cir. 2005) (holding that the "natural tendency" standard was proper for determining whether a false statement was material under the FCA).

n190 SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE, FALSE CLAIMS AMENDMENTS ACT OF 1986, S. REP. NO. 99-345, at 7 (1986), *reprinted in* 1986 U.S.C.C.A.N. 5266, 5272 ("But the Committee does believe the civil False Claims Act should recognize that those doing business with the Government have an obligation to make a limited inquiry to ensure the claims they submit are accurate.").

n191 Id. at 14-15, 17, 21.

n192 *Id.* at 21; *see also* Crane Helicopter Servs., Inc. v. United States, 45 Fed. Cl. 410, 433 (1999) ("[The FCA's knowing standard was designed to address] 'the 'ostrich-like' refusal to learn of information which an individual, in the exercise of prudent judgment, had reason to know!" and to reach "those who ignore obvious warning signs.") (citation omitted).

n193 United States v. Nat'l Wholesalers, 236 F.2d 944, 950 (9th Cir. 1956).

n194 *See* United States *ex rel*. Costner v. United States, 317 F.3d 883, 887 (8th Cir. 2003) ("If the government knows and approves of the particulars of a claim for payment *before* that claim is presented . . . ." (emphasis added) (altercation omitted) (quoting United States *ex rel*. Becker v. Westinghouse Savannah River Co., 305 F.3d 542, 543 (7th Cir. 1999))); United States *ex rel*. Stone v. Rockwell Int'l Corp., 282 F.3d 787, 811 (10th Cir.

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2002) ("The defendant . . . may be able to cast doubt on whether he 'knowingly' submitted a false claim by showing that the Government itself was already aware of the facts underlying the FCA claim when the allegedly fraudulent claim was submitted." (citing United States ex rel. Butler v. Hughes Helicopters, Inc., 71 F.3d 321, 326-27 (9th Cir. 1995))); United States ex rel. Durcholz v. FKW, Inc., 189 F.3d 542, 545 (7th Cir. 1999) ("before [the] claim is presented"); see also United States ex rel. Laird v. Lockheed Martin Eng'g & Sci. Servs. Co., 491 F.3d 254, 263 (5th Cir. 2007) ("before that claim is presented" (citing *Durcholz*, 189 F.3d at 545)); United States ex rel. Humphrey v. Franklin-Williamson Human Servs., Inc., 189 F. Supp. 2d 862, 867 (S.D. Ill. 2002) ("before [the] claim is presented") citing Durcholz, 189 F.3d. at 545)); United States ex rel. Maxwell v. Kerr-McGee Chem. Worldwide, LLC, No. 04-CV-01224-PSF-CBS, 2006 WL 2869515, at \*16 (D. Colo. Oct. 6, 2006); cf. United States v. Southland Mgmt. Corp., 326 F.3d 669, 682 n.9 (5th Cir. 2003) (en banc) (Jones, J., concurring) ("In principle, it would seem that the government's knowledge of a false claim would not be an effective defense . . . if the government's knowledge came 'too late in the process" (quoting *Durcholz*, 189 F.3d at 544-45)); United States v. Shasta Servs., Inc., 440 F. Supp. 2d 1108, 1113-14 (E.D. Cal. 2006) (applying the defense to California's FCA).

n195 See, e.g., Becker, 305 F.3d at 287-89; X Corp. v. Doe, 816 F. Supp. 1086, 1093 (E.D. Va. 1993) (finding government notification in defendant's proposal).

n196 See supra notes 173, 175, and accompanying text.

n197 236 F.2d 944 (9th Cir. 1956).

n198 Id. at 945.

n199 Id. at 945-96.

n200 Id. at 946.

n201 Id. at 946 & n.3.

n202 Id. at 948.

n203 Id. at 946.

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n204 Id. at 946, 948.
n205 <i>Id</i> . at 948.
n206 <i>Id.</i> at 949-50. The district court also erroneously determined that the contract permitted "equals." <i>Id.</i> at 949.
n207 Id. at 950.
n208 <i>Id</i> .
n209 <i>Id</i> .
n210 <i>Id</i> .
n211 United States ex rel. Gudur v. Deloitte Consulting LLP, 512 F. Supp. 2d 920, 932 (S.D. Tex. 2007).
n212 929 F.2d 1416 (9th Cir. 1991).

# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

UNITED STATES ex rel. BRIAN BURKE

Plaintiff,

Case No. 1:08-cv-364(EGS)(DAR)

-versus-

Judge: Deborah A. Robinson

RECORD PRESS, INC.,

Defendant.

# <u> AFFIDAVIT:</u>

<u>"I declare and certify, verify, and state under penalty of perjury</u> under the laws of the United States of America that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed on July 10, 2013:

Affiant, Morris Gocial, CPA/CFF, CVA, CrFA, DAFBA

Your Honor, G3 of PA LLC, formerly Gold Gocial Gerstein LLC has been engaged by Tyler Jay King, Esquire, to

determine the amount of damages suffered, if any, by United States ex rel. Brian Burke ("Burke") due to the wrongful interpretation by defendant of terms defined in the Invitation for Bid ("IFB") between the Government Printing Office ("GPO") and Record Press, Inc. ("Defendant").

It is my opinion that the damages sustained by the plaintiff approximate those damages as calculated at the request of the law office of Tyler Jay King, Esquire, in the amount of \$513, 793.91.

All opinions contained in this report are rendered and expressed with a reasonable degree of accounting certainty.

### **BACKGROUND**

Brian Burke was the plaintiff in a lawsuit, Brian Burke v. Donald L. Evans, Secretary,

United States Department of Commerce, in the United States District Court of the Southern District of New York. The case was ruled in the Department of Commerce's favor and Burke appealed the decision in the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit. The appeals case was ruled in the Department of Commerce's favor. Burke was then served by the U.S. Attorney's Office with an Itemized and Verified Bill of Costs pursuant to an action in which he was a pro se litigant before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit. Upon receiving the bill, which summarized charges to the Government for printing and binding appellate briefs and appendices, Burke investigated and discovered that the Defendant was overcharging the Government nearly 10 times the rate specified by its contract with GPO as it pertains to line item II(d).

In the course of investigating the charges listed in the Itemized and Verified Bill of Costs, Burke was provided with an IFB for Program 2231-S (formerly 1272-S) dated October 18, 2006 effective November 1, 2006 and ending October 31, 2007 with option for renewal for four annual terms. The IFB provides general terms, conditions, and specifications of the single award for the procurement of appeals briefs.

Burke reviewed the IFB and noted that on Page 14 of 15, under Section 4 – Schedule of Prices, II. Complete Product, there is an underlined indication reflecting "Note: Running Rate is per 10 copies". However, upon review of Itemized and Verified Bill of Costs, it appears that Collating, Trimming to Size and Binding costs noted at II(d) were charged at \$12.25 per 100 pages. Burke believes the United States has been overcharged by Record Press because they charged this line item for every copy of each brief or appendix prepared, rather than per 10 copies as specified in the contract.

Our calculation of damages was supported, in part, by review of IFB for Program

2231-S, as well as review of IFB for Program 1272-S effective August 2001. We also received Record Press, Inc. invoices and reviewed for proper contract terms application. Additionally, we reviewed the depositions/declarations of the following individuals: Hugh Wilmot (President of Record Press, Inc.), and Raymond Thomas Sullivan (Director, Major APS Acquisitions of the United States Government Printing Office). We noted through their sworn testimony that it is the position of both Record Press, Inc. and GPO that the invoices submitted and paid are accurate and in accordance with the terms of the respective IFB in place at time services were performed. We disagree with their interpretation of the terms of the IFB as outlined in this report.

We also consulted an industry expert, Robert Dworski ("Dworski"). Dworski has 38 years (1971 to 2009) of experience in the printing and publishing industry beginning with his sales and marketing position with Packard Press. His role was to expand the sales and publishing efforts of The Legal Intelligencer and those of the Financial Printing Division. His exposure and training put him in contact with both the manufacturing and administrative areas of the process. Dworski became the sales manager for the company and secured contracts from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and other government entities. This position also facilitated involvement in the pricing and management of contracts. Dworski's conclusion based on review of information provided supports our position that there is misleading terminology in referencing of services provided on Record Press invoices and inconsistencies in rates charged for similar services on numerous invoices which are inconsistent with the terms of the IFB.

PROCEDURES PERFORMED AND FINDINGS

- (1) Based on review of IFB 2231-S and IFB 1272-S (exhibit A Doc. 67), and identified as "Basis of Award" on the accompanying schedule to the IFB, it appears there may have been a lack of oversight and attention to detail by the GPO in preparation of the IFB.
- (2) Page 12 of 15, Section 4 Schedule of Prices, refers to "fractional parts of 10 will be prorated" which supports our position that where a running rate of 10 copies is referenced that rates charged are per 10 copies. (Exhibit B Doc. 67)
- (3) Page 14 of 15, Section 4, II Complete Product, specifically states "Note: Running rate is per 10 copies" which covers parts (a), (b), (c), and (d). This further supports our position that the rates charged in this section are for every 10 copies rather than for each copy. (Exhibit C Doc. 67)

With respect to our review of the invoices the following was performed:

We received 1710 invoices as listed on an accompanying excel spreadsheet (Exhibit D Doc. 67) prepared at the request of the law office of Tyler Jay King, Esquire, attorney for Burke. The spreadsheet outlined the calculated damages as they related to line item II(d) Collating, Trimming to Size and Binding only. As we are relying on the accuracy of the spreadsheet received, we determined our testing could be completed on a sample basis. As such we performed testing of 100 invoices selected as follows:

> 40 invoices Top highest damages calculated 60 invoices Random selection from remaining population

100 invoices Total Tested

From the spreadsheet, we sorted by damages amount in descending order and selected the top 40 items that reflected the highest damages based only on line II(d) discrepancies. We then recalculated all line items referenced on each of these invoices and recomputed damages, according to our understanding of the IFB terms.

We then randomly selected 60 additional items from the remaining population and performed recalculation of all line items for each invoice and recomputed damages, according to our understanding of the IFB terms.

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Our review of the above-mentioned invoices yielded the following information:

- a) Of the 100 invoices tested, which represented approximately 5.8% of invoices received, the damages computed equals \$113,972.64, or approximately 22% of total damages calculated on the spreadsheet.
- b) Our review detected inaccuracies in charges of other line items as defined in the IFB besides line item II(d) which we did not consider in our damages calculation.
- c) Our review detected other errors such as inconsistent rates charged for "Crack and Peel Covers" and "Page Text", as well as, misleading terminology utilized in line items referencing the services provided, amongst several invoices which we did not consider in our damages calculation.

The errors we found in our test sampling demonstrates that Record Press did not bill for services performed according to the contract and the personnel at GPO apparently were not diligent in reviewing the invoices as submitted for compliance to contract terms as written. This fact disputes the declaration of Raymond Thomas Sullivan that "7. Record Press, Inc. properly charged for services for GPO program 2231-S for the printing of briefs, and fully abided its contractual obligations to GPO. I have found no evidence of fraud or overcharging by Record Press, Inc. in connection with this matter." (*Exhibit E Doc. 67*)

# CONCLUSION

Based upon the procedures performed and results obtained thereto, it is my professional opinion within a reasonable degree of accounting certainty that the amount of damages suffered by the United States approximates those damages as calculated on the spreadsheets in Exhibit D in the amount of \$513,793.91 for the period January 2001

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through April 2010. My opinion is based on my many years of experience of reviewing contracts in my capacity as a certified public accountant as well as my experience as a forensic accountant. I reserve the right to amend or supplement this Affidavit/Declaration should additional information become available.

Morris Gocial, CPA/CFF, CVA, CrFA, DAFBA

Dated July 10, 2013

# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF **COLUMBIA**

UNITED STATES ex rel. B	RIAN BURKE	
	Plaintiff,	Case No. 1:08-cv-364(EGS)(DAR)
-versus-		Judge: Deborah A. Robinson
RECORD PRESS, INC.,		
	Defendant.	

# [PROPOSED] ORDER

WHEREFORE, upon consideration of Plaintiff United States ex rel. Brian Burke's Motion for Amended Judgment, and the parties submissions related thereto, it is hereby ORDERED that the Motion be GRANTED in all parts. and ORDERED that judgment is entered in favor of Plaintiff and against the Defendants. and ORDERED that

> Honorable Deborah A. Robinson United States District Judge

#### UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

UNITED STATES, ex rel. BRIAN BURKE,

CASE NO. 1:08-cv-364 (DAR)

PLAINTIFF,

v.

RECORD PRESS, INC.,

DEFENDANT

# PLAINTIFF'S OPPOSITION TO DEFENDANT'S MOTION FOR ATTORNEY FEES AND EXPENSES

Plaintiff, Relator, Brian Burke ("Mr. Burke"), by and through its undersigned counsel, respectfully submits this Opposition to Defendant's Motion for Award of Attorney Fees. In support thereof Plaintiff incorporates by this reference the facts and arguments contained in Brian Burke's affidavit attached hereto and to Morris Gocial's affidavit attached hereto.

DATED: July 11, 2013

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/

Tyler Jay King, Esq. Bar No. 979592 1407 Nicholson Street, N.W. Washington, DC 20011 (202) 436-2641

#### CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned hereby certifies that on this July 11, 2013, a copy of the foregoing was served by email to:

Darrell C. Valdez

John W. Lomas, Jr.

William T. O'Brien

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/

Tyler Jay King, Esq.

# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

UNITED STATES ex rel. BRIAN BURKE

Plaintiff,

-versus-

Jud

**Case No.** 1:08-cv-364(EGS)(DAR)

Judge: Deborah A. Robinson

RECORD PRESS, INC.,

Defendant.

# **AFFIDAVIT:**

"I declare and certify, verify, and state under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed on July 10, 2013:

This is Relator's Affidavit by BRIAN BURKE Opposing Record Press's Motion for Attorney's Fees and Expenses (Dct. 94). Defendant, by counsel, has misstated evidence, used misdirection, misquoted, obfuscated, etc. in order to prevail and now retaliate and destroy this blue collar whistleblowing Civil Servant financially via ruinous fines/fees. Where to start? This Court never used the term frivolous with regard to Relator's case. To the contrary this Court ruled in favor of Relator in regard to Defendant's 'frivolous' Rule 11 motion and Summary Judgment Motion(s). Then there is the Counterclaim. There are outstanding issues of Law and Fact, as the People will be requesting an Amended Judgment on all issues. If this is not granted, an appeal to D.C. Circuit will be filed to review and/or reverse the new case law changing precedent and damaging Remedy under Federal False Claims Act. Please see also Relator's Affidavit attached to Plaintiff's Motion for Amended Judgment, Fed. R. Civ. P. 59(e).

# **MEETING OF MINDS**

Let us start with the first quote within Movant's Motion for Attorney's Fees and

Expenses (Doc. 94, pg. 8) paragraph 2. ""the evidence offered by Plaintiff demonstrates that Defendant and the government had a meeting of the minds with respect to rates which Defendant would charge for services provided pursuant to the contract." (Dkt. #91, at 7.)". Relator will show that this conclusion of Fact and/or Law by the Court contradicts all previous case law with regard to when any 'meeting of minds' must occur. See also Plaintiff's Statement of Points and Authorities within Motion for Amended Judgment. Under any case law regarding Defendant's Government Knowledge Defense (which incredibly they claim to not be using!?), this 'meeting of minds' must occur **PRIOR** to submitted false claim. "On appeal, the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit reversed. The court determined that the time to test the falsity of a claim is the date when it is submitted. Accordingly, every one of the invoices prior to [when the contracting officer learned of the mislabeling] was false when made." Further, although the contracting officer has the authority to modify a contract, a retroactive modification under such circumstances was "void as against public policy." The court continued: "In such palming off as we have here we do not believe that the Congress ever intended that contracting officers should have the power to vitiate the False Claims statute." [United States v. Nat'l Wholesalers, 236 F.2d 944, 950 (9th Cir. 1956] "see\_THE GOVERNMENT KNOWLEDGE DEFENSE TO THE CIVIL FALSE CLAIMS ACT: A MISNOMER BY ANY OTHER NAME DOES NOT SOUND AS SWEET Author MICHAEL J. DAVIDSON 45 Idaho L. Rev. 41(att.). See United States ex rel. Costner v. United States, 317 F.3d 883, 887 (8th Cir. 2003) ("If the government knows and approves of the particulars of a claim for payment before that claim is presented . . . . " (emphasis added) (altercation omitted) (quoting United States ex rel. Becker v. Westinghouse Savannah River Co., 305

F.3d 542, 543 (7th Cir. 1999))); United States ex rel. Stone v. Rockwell Int'l Corp., 282 F.3d 787, 811 (10th Cir. 2002) ("The defendant . . . may be able to cast doubt on whether he 'knowingly' submitted a false claim by showing that the Government itself was already aware of the facts underlying the FCA claim when the allegedly fraudulent claim was submitted." (citing *United States ex rel. Butler v. Hughes Helicopters, Inc.*, 71 F.3d 321, 326-27 (9th Cir. 1995))); United States ex rel. Durcholz v. FKW, Inc., 189 F.3d 542, 545 (7th Cir. 1999)("before [the] claim is presented"); see also *United States ex rel. Laird v*. Lockheed Martin Eng'g & Sci. Servs. Co., 491 F.3d 254, 263 (5th Cir. 2007) ("before that claim is presented" (citing Durcholz, 189 F.3d at 545)); United States ex rel. Humphrey v. Franklin-Williamson Human Servs., Inc., 189 F. Supp. 2d 862, 867 (S.D. Ill. 2002) ("before [the] claim is presented") citing *Durcholz*, 189 F.3d. at 545)); *United States ex* rel. Maxwell v. Kerr-McGee Chem. Worldwide, LLC, No. 04-CV-01224-PSF-CBS, 2006 WL 2869515, at \*16 (D. Colo. Oct. 6, 2006); cf. United States v. Southland Mgmt. Corp., 326 F.3d 669, 682 n.9 (5th Cir. 2003) (en banc) (Jones, J., concurring) ("In principle, it would seem that the government's knowledge of a false claim would not be an effective defense . . . if the government's knowledge came 'too late in the process'' (quoting Durcholz, 189 F.3d at 544-45)); United States v. Shasta Servs., Inc., 440 F. Supp. 2d 1108, 1113-14 (E.D. Cal. 2006) (applying the defense to California's FCA). See also "Additionally, an FCA defendant should not benefit if someone from the government learns of the falsity and simply does nothing about it. The Seventh Circuit has held that mere governmental acquiescence is insufficient to sustain a government knowledge defense. The government must both know of, and approve, the particular claim **before it is submitted.** The opinions of other circuit courts appear to have adopted a

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similar standard. Unless that person is someone with the requisite level of authority and approves or otherwise indicates to the defendant that its conduct is permissible, then the defendant's scienter remains unaffected. Additionally, "mere acquiescence would preclude FCA liability any time a government employee and a defendant were in cahoots."" Significantly, government employees, including procurement officials, lack the authority to waive fraudulent conduct."(236 F.2d 944 (9th Cir. 1956)).

### PRIOR MEETING OF MINDS

As to our affirmative evidence of no **PRIOR** "meeting of minds" we have Mr. Sullivan's testimony during February 14, 2011 Bench Trial and Mr. Wilmot's Deposition testimony. Please see Document 90 page 89 lines 10-13." Mr. King; Q. "Did -- had you discussed this interpretation [whether running rate applies to line II(d)] with Mr. Wilmot or anyone with Record Press prior to this contract having been executed? [Mr. Sullivan] A. I have never met or had any discussions with Mr. Wilmot." Please see also Wilmot Deposition Page 75 line 9- page 77 from line 15 attached as Exhibit A (pages 71- 91). "BY MR. KING: Q. Does the GPO and Record Press engage in any preliminary discourse regarding the definitions or meanings of any of the terms in the contract? A. [Mr. Wilmot] I have never seen that.[emphasis in original] Q. [Mr. King] So Record Press does not, and the GPO does not discuss what any of this means before it's awarded? ...... A. [Mr. Wilmot] I have never seen that. Page 76 line 14 BY MR. KING: Q. And when you speak with Mr. Fishken, do you discuss the meaning of any of these contracts? ....... THE WITNESS: [Mr. Wilmot] No. When I speak to Ira, it's generally on performance issues such as if a U.S. Attorney may have a particular issue on the – a job or so on and so forth, or the timeliness period. Never on contract terms

[emphasis added]. The contracts I submitted by the GPO are unambiguous, period. And if there were any changes to a particular contract or something you do not understand, it is a written submission process. BY MR KING: Q. "After this case was filed, did you speak with him about this particular contract or about this particular case? .......... THE WITNESS: [Mr. Wilmot] Not at all. Can I add something for the record? Q. [Mr. King] Yes. Please. A. [Mr. Wilmot] Record Press's invoices are submitted to Washington, D.C. along with Philadelphia, GPO's office. Washington does not pay our invoices unless GPO in Philadelphia approves of them. So that means they must be in compliance before they are paid, so there is a dual auditing going on on our invoices."

Defendant appears to proceed under the erroneous assumption that if the false claim is paid it becomes legitimate. This logic appears to be shared by Defendant's Counsel. If that were true, the False Claims Act would be mooted. There was no evidence of any "auditing" by the Government prior to case unsealing. The only "Auditor" to testify was Mr. Gocial. See SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE, FALSE CLAIMS AMENDMENTS ACT OF 1986, S. REP. NO. 99-345, at 7 (1986), reprinted in 1986 U.S.C.C.A.N. 5266, 5272 ("But the Committee does believe the civil False Claims Act should recognize that those doing business with the Government have an obligation to make a limited inquiry to ensure the claims they submit are accurate.") see also Crane Helicopter Servs., Inc. v. United States, 45 Fed. Cl. 410, 433 (1999) ("[The FCA's knowing standard was designed to address] 'the 'ostrich-like' refusal to learn of information which an individual, in the exercise of prudent judgment, had reason to know" and to reach "those who ignore obvious warning signs.") (citation omitted). We

agree with Defendant that the relevant contract is unambiguous. See the Affidavit of the (only) expert witness, Mr. Gocial, page 4:

- (1) Page 12 of 15, Section 4 Schedule of Prices, refers to "fractional parts of 10 will be prorated" which supports our position that where a running rate of 10 copies is referenced that rates charged are per 10 copies. (Exhibit B Doc. 67)
- (2) Page 14 of 15, Section 4, II Complete Product, specifically states "Note: Running rate is per 10 copies" which covers parts (a), (b), (c), and (d). This further supports our position that the rates charged in this section are for every 10 copies rather than for each copy. (Exhibit C Doc. 67)

#### ACTUAL VICTIM

As to the next quote, "the alleged victim, through the agency official who appeared in Plaintiff's case-in-chief, testified there was no fraud". To start, we have the sharpest possible disagreement regarding "the alleged victim" or the actual victim. Qui tam pro domino rege quam pro se ipso in hac parte sequitur, (who as much for [our] lord the king as for himself in this action pursues), a.k.a. False Claims Act, 31 U.S.C. §§ 3729–3733, suing in the name of the King (or State etc.) is an old law which by definition implies that Contracting Officers and/or those tasked with paying claims have failed to perform their fiduciary responsibility. Thus this necessity to grant cause of action to individual citizens who have evidence of false claims. Affiant is a Shop Steward of 8 years, Safety Representative, and Civil Servant for 12 ½ years. I am tasked as a Shop Steward with defending fellow Civil Servants accused of wrongdoing. Occasionally he or she commits an error due to overwork, fatigue, lack of information, or lack of training, etc.. The assumption regarding said error is that a natural tendency to justify, cover-up or otherwise defend error is a result of inherent bias against being so confronted (with error). The testimony, or evidence is considered self-serving and is not limited to 'lower' titles. So we have this "alleged victim". So what is a 'victim'? One who is harmed? If by

accusing an individual, or an agency, of failing to perform fiduciary responsibility they become a 'victim' than GPO is a victim. If the accusation, or evidence, does not confer victimhood then GPO is not a 'victim'. The court was correct in conferring the title "Alleged Victim" upon the GPO. The fact that the GPO was not deprived of monies by the instant False Claims is not disputed. In fact, it is not disputed that the GPO 'profited' off of said claims due to its own 7% overhead charge on same. This fact is used to hammer and defame Relator!! The actual victim, as a matter of law (statute), is the People (taxpayers) of the United States, who paid these claims, admittedly plus the GPO's 7% 'cut'. Defendant has a right to dislike the Federal False Claims Act, and it admittedly is not meant to serve their interest as a Contractor, but the taxpayer requires an advocate. Numerous laws have been passed and signed that protect us taxpayers from corrupt, indolent or indifferent Contracting Officers that fail to perform their 'honest services' and attempt to cover up same. This is called a Moral Hazard when one's financial or other interests lie in one direction and yet are implied to lie in its apostate. GPO would not recover any monies from its admitted friend Record Press, damages would be returned to the General Fund. Would the GPO be on the hook for the  $513,793.91 \times .07(\%) = 35,965.57$ ? An interesting conundrum, but not promising to elicit testimony contrary to interest. The Courts reliance on this Morally Hazardous, biased Testimony from the GPO's 30(b)6 witness is what we are requesting (see Motion for Amended Judgment) be revisited as contrary to the interest of justice. See also United States v. United Techs. Corp., No. 5:92-CV-375 (EBB), 1996 WL 653620, at \*2 (D. Conn. Oct. 11, 1996) ("The statute's restriction on the authority of agency heads should be read as encompassing their subordinates."); cf. Contract Disputes Act of 1978, S. REP.

NO. 95-1118, at 19 (1978), as reprinted in 1978 U.S.C.C.A.N. 5235, 5253 ("[I]t is not the intent of this section to authorize Agency heads, contracting officers, or agency boards to settle or compromise claims independent of their legal or contractual merits . . . "). Nat'l Wholesalers, 236 F.2d at 950; see also United States ex rel. McCray Sanitation Serv. v. Midwest Container Co., 7 F.3d 1046, at \*2 (10th Cir. 1993) (unpublished table decision) ("[Contracting agency cannot] 'ratify' any previous fraud by [contractor]."). Significantly, government employees, including procurement officials, lack the authority to waive fraudulent conduct. Accordingly, the FCA is violated when a contractor submits a false claim even when the contractor informs the government of the claim's falsity before submission. Further, once false claims are received, a contracting officer may not modify the contract, or take other action, to waive past false claims. The Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) also contains express limitations on contracting officer authority when a claim is suspected to be false or tainted by fraud. Pursuant to FAR 33.210(b), (the FAR is codified in Title 48 of the United States Code of Federal Regulations. It is issued pursuant to the Office of Federal Procurement Policy Act of 1974 (Pub. L. 93-400 and Title 41 of the United States Code), Chapter 7.) the contracting officer has no authority to settle, compromise, pay or adjust "any claim involving fraud." Similarly, section 605(a) of the Contract Disputes Act (41 U.S.C. § 605) removes any authority from the head of an agency "to settle, compromise, pay, or otherwise adjust any claim involving fraud." This statutory restriction on agency heads extends downward to subordinate agency procurement officials." MICHAEL J. DAVIDSON, 45 Idaho L. Rev. 41(att.).

#### RELATOR'S EVIDENCE

Now as to the next quote from decision, "Plaintiff offered no evidence to the contrary" (Id. (emphasis added))". The evidence submitted by Relator is extensive and dispositive, or should be, for Plaintiff's case and include all court papers, "Expert Report", the IFB 2231-S/1272-S, testimony, and the 'spreadsheets' submitted by GPO/Record Press, Inc. This case cannot be simpler, Record Press billed the United States at least 10 times too much for Collating, Trimming to Size and Binding briefs and appendixes. Everything else is smoke and mirrors. Mr. Adgerson told Relator on July 5, 2007 that Record Press was charging 10 times too much for same by not applying clearly written "Note: Running rate is per 10 copies" and "RUNNING PER 10 COPIES" above line II(d). His 'battlefield' conversion is perjury, as previously stated in Counterclaim Defendant's Omnibus Motion(Dct. 70), etc. It is certainly acknowledged that Relator's "beliefs" and "subjective concern" are far from dispositive and admittedly legally biased in the interest of the People. Relator's 'opinion/subjective concern' means nothing, the 'contract' means everything. This is our gravamen. Relator's 'opinion' is identical to that of the young boy who stated that "The Emperor has no clothes", the difference being, I, unlike the boy, will be forced to work to the age of 85 or more operating a train in order to pay Record Press for the admitted crime of attempting Remedy for the United States in recovering damages as a Whistleblower. We believe the Defendant has no basis for Recovery, as a matter of fact and law. It is in fact Counterclaim Defendant with the strongest argument for Fees and Expenses for Counterclaim that Defendant demanded the Court dismiss after service of Omnibus Motion to Dismiss/For Summary Judgment. Please see arguments in the admittedly 'mooted' papers submitted by Counterclaim Defendant (Dcts.70,74,76,77,82,85).

Counterclaim Defendant has not submitted Motion for Fees under any rule due to pending Motion for Amended Judgment and the right for Defendant to reinitiate Counterclaim, which, as predicted, they have apparently done within this Motion for Attorney Fees and Expenses. Can it be that Defendant is actually seeking Fees & Expenses for their own 5 year frivolous and vexatious Dismissed Counterclaim? We also request any fees or expenses incurred investigating Relator, Mr. King, Mr. Hanna, subpoenaed witness, etc. be quashed. Defendant mentions the Rule 11 Motion filed by pro se Plaintiff in Burke v. Evans but forgot to mention their own Rule 11 Motion in their 32 page soliloquy(dct. 94-main). Why is that? **Because Defendant lost**. Yet they seek payment from Relator for same. Defendant mentions one of their defeated Motion(s) for Summary Judgment only to state on page 22 "More than half of Record Press's fees were incurred after Record Press filed its June 24, 2010 motion for summary judgment." Their implied logic is that United States ex rel. Brian Burke should have performed what Record Press did after Counterclaim Defendant's own Motion for Summary Judgment, a Fed. R. Civ. P. 41(a)(2) Motion for Voluntary Dismissal. Perhaps Defendant could inform the Court and Relator when this was done in the history of Jurisprudence after WINNING same Summary Judgment motion. It is not clear how much Record Press spent after losing their infinitely more relevant Rule 11 Motion (as juxtaposed to Burke's Rule 11 Motion in another case) or how much was spent in losing three dispositive motions but clearly they want Relator to pay for same. Defendant, by Counsel, as always, seeks to have their cake and eat it too. While they claim to be of one mind with an Order they admittedly prevailed on (Relator is requesting an Amended Judgment by Motion, an action that generally stays Motion for Fees and Tolling on time to file Notice of Appeal,

i.e. this Motion is premature at best) they are forcing this Court to rewrite same Decision. This Court studiously and purposely, after its 2 \(^1\)4 year Deliberation, chose not to use the words "frivolous' or "vexatious" in its Decision/Order. That time for the Court to perform its lawful function is also being taxed to Relator in Defendant's suggestion Plaintiff deliberately dragged out or prolonged proceedings. Record Press was not clear where or in what irrelevant case a Court has used the word "frivolous" or for that matter "vexatious" but base their incorrect opinion on the fact that Brian Burke pro se lost. In Document 90, PM Transcript of Bench Trial, page 41 lines 8-14 "......but that the Court would find no relevance or probative value, with all due respect to other judges, in a mere determination that there was insufficient evidence.. MR. O'BRIEN: Understood, Your Honor. THE COURT:---that do not have any bearing upon Mr. Burke's credibility. Mr. O'BRIEN: No, I understand, Your Honor." This Ruling was 'understood' but not followed. On pages 45, 46 of same Document 90 Lines 25-5 MR. KING: "I would point out that the Rule 11 motion has been filed accusing Mr. Burke of filing frivolously; that motion had already been decided and overruled. It seems like this is another opportunity to try to bring up whether or not that motion should be granted, when it's already been denied." Highly prescient. Here we are again.

#### BETWEEN SCYLLA AND CHARYBDIS

We are not attempting to defame Mr. Sullivan, or for that matter Mr. Wilmot. We are aware both these gentlemen were given a Hobson's Choice. In Mr. Sullivan's case he was clearly taxed with covering-up GPO's faults by his superior, as an admitted lifelong employee. The previous employee stuck with this unrewarding task chose to retire instead (Doc. 90 pg. 63). Mr. Sullivan was apparently promoted for his yeoman work on

this case. So what would be the outcome if Mr. Sullivan testified for example "a clear reading of the contract for program 2231-S shows Record Press has been billing 10 times too much for collating trimming to size and binding government briefs and appendices." We believe he would have been fired or demoted or transferred or otherwise retaliated against. It is clear that GPO's official position has been formed on the instant case prior to Mr. Sullivan's dilemma(id. pg. 63). Were he to 'whistleblow' prior to testimony he would simply have been replaced as 30(b)6 witness and retaliated against. Were he to do as former employee Mr. Adgerson and simply 'flip the script', but in this case against the interest of his boss, on the Stand, we can only imagine the outcome. While Relator would certainly welcome any testimony in the interest of the People, this heroism is not required to enforce the False Claims Act. Now we have Mr. Wilmot. The 'false claims' (the word fraud has been employed, but see *United States ex rel. Quirk v. Madonna Towers, Inc.*, 278 F.3d 765, 767 (8<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2002) ("No proof of specific intent to defraud the government is required." (citing 31 U.S.C. § 3729(b))).) clearly started before Mr. Wilmot's tenure at Record Press, Inc.. So what was, or is, Mr. Wilmot to do when he noticed the instant false claims? Whistleblow on his own company? Would he ever be hired again? Unknown. It is not required that contractor whistleblow on itself for FCA to be enforced, or for that matter an employee of 'allegedly' defrauded agency do the same. Of course, we have an agency that itself was not defrauded but instead pocketed 7% on the false claims, it was the United States treasury that was defrauded. If it is required that a Relator have the 'allegedly', or actually, defrauded agency testify in their behalf or interest we clearly have not surmounted that hurdle and the case is deservedly Dismissed. This hurdle is not required. It does not exist. We acknowledge case law wherein a **PRIOR** 'meeting of

minds' may mitigate or defend against a False Claim Action, but, as shown, this did not occur within instant case. Full stop. As my admittedly sexist ancestor informed me well before my birth "The only thing necessary for evil to triumph is for good men to do nothing" (Edmond Burke). The United States is \$15 Trillion in debt and requires someone to advance it's fiduciary interest, thus we have the False Claims Act. We respectfully request the Court not hamstring, cripple, 'moot', restrict, or end same act. We respectfully request that the Court not require the gentlemen, Mr. Sullivan or Mr. Wilmot, to act contrary to interest. Upton Sinclair "It is difficult to get a man to understand something, when his salary depends on his not understanding it".

# **RP000069 AND IFB FOR PROGRAM 2231-S/1272-S**

Now again to the core of the case. In Defendant's Document 94 page 12 we have a small piece of a document both parties believe is Dispositive. There was testimony that RP000069, or was it the 'page 1 of 1', was attached to the Request For Bids for Program 2231-S and/or 1272-S. It is agreed that Relator, in the Complaint, relied upon the 'four corners' of what became the 'contract' (IFP with Record Press's winning bids (albeit with GPO's 7% 'profit')). There does not appear to be any evidence, or testimony, other than that a plain reading of said contract can only lead to the conclusion that Record Press was charging the United States 10 times too much for line II(D) COLLATING, TRIMMING TO SIZE AND BINDING, due to ignoring "Note: Running rate is per 10 copies" and "RUNNING PER 10 COPIES" written clearly above lines (a), (b), (c), and (d). Defendant acknowledges this 'running rate' applies to, and they appeared to bill correctly, lines (a), and (b). So why does it not apply to line (d)? Witnesses Sullivan and Wilmot claim to believe this is obvious, without explanation. It is obvious. A clear, and

only possible, reading and application of IFB 2231-S/1272-S would apply 'running rate' to COLLATING, TRIMMING TO SIZE AND BINDING. What the four corners of the contract could be more clear on is whether or not contractor should be charging at all for a particular book under line II(d). We assumed that Record Press, or another winning contractor, was allowed to charge \$12.25, (or even our initial \$12.50), per 10 copies per 100 pages for programs 2231-S/1272-S, for all books. Defendant's only actual written evidence submitted to the contrary, RP000069 and/or similar 'page 1 of 1' (attached) admittedly show something different. While the 'running rate' applies to lines (c) and (d) (see Relator Motion for Amended Judgement Affidavit), it is absolutely dispositive, legally conclusive and crystal clear on our initial assumption. With apologies to the Court, we were wrong, mea culpa. That is to say, and again Defendant submitted these documents as dispositive (including within instant motion (Dct. 94 pg. 12)), **Record** Press is not to charge AT ALL for COLLATING, TRIMMING TO SIZE AND **BINDING**, other than for delivered pre-printed documents (see IFB 2231-S page 6 paragraph 8 "Occasionally the Government will supply preprinted 8-1/2 x 11" pages which the contractor will be required to collate, typeset a cover trim to finished size and bind."), or petitions for a writ of certiorari, which require 'Pressure Sensitive Cover Stock' and substantial trimming. For this conclusion, the only possible, we go back to those 'spreadsheets' (RP00069 and 'page 1 of 1' both attached). Mr. Lomas, as during the trial, etc., admittedly in order to make his case, concentrated on the left side margins of said document(s) and purposely chose, and continues to chose to, demand the Court view and decide based only upon that section. Lets call it the face and hands of the spreadsheet. The problem is that for parties, or the Court, to determine whether or not this

'emperor' has clothes, we must view THE WHOLE DOCUMENT, INCLUDING THE BODY! As Expert Witness Mr. Gocial could explain much better than myself, Relator's accounting background is more modest, the margin of any spreadsheet is used only to explain and assist in analyzing the actual data to the right of the margin. RECORD PRESS CONTINUES TO SHOW NO DATA WITHIN THESE DOCUMENTS. Why? Because they would lose. Again full stop. Please see Relator's Affidavit attached to our Motion for Amended Judgment, in order to not be repetitive. We have alleged Bid-Rigging, again see Relator's Motion for Amended Judgment Affidavit attached.

# **NON-RELEVANT CASES**

As to Mr. Lomas's tortured parsing of Plaintiff's previous pro se<sup>1</sup> (Dct. 70 pg.2,3) documents submitted in other cases, one can say no more than that they are irrelevant to

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Movant requests Court construe Pleadings liberally. "The court must construe the pleadings liberally, Pro se litigants' court submissions are to be construed liberally and held to less stringent standards than submissions of lawyers. If the court can reasonably read the submissions, it should do so despite failure to cite proper legal authority, confusion of legal theories, poor syntax and sentence construction, or litigant's unfamiliarity with rule requirements. Boag v. MacDougall, 454 U.S. 364, 102 S.Ct. 700, 70 L.Ed.2d 551 (1982); Estelle v. Gamble, 429 U.S. 97, 106, 97 S.Ct. 285, 50 L.Ed.2d 251 (1976)(quoting Conley v. Gibson, 355 U.S. 41, 45-46, 78 S.Ct. 99, 2 L.Ed.2d 80 (1957)); Haines v. Kerner, 404 U.S. 519, 92 S.Ct. 594, 30 L.Ed.2d 652 (1972); McDowell v. Delaware State Police, 88 F.3d 188, 189 (3rd Cir. 1996); United States v. Day, 969 F.2d 39, 42 (3rd Cir. 1992)(holding pro se petition cannot be held to same standard as pleadings drafted by attorneys); Then v. I.N.S., 58 F.Supp.2d 422, 429 (D.N.J. 1999). The courts provide pro se parties wide latitude when construing their pleadings and papers. When interpreting pro se papers, the Court should use common sense to determine what relief the party desires. S.E.C. v. Elliott, 953 F.2d 1560, 1582 (11th Cir. 1992). See also, United States v. Miller, 197 F.3d 644, 648 (3rd Cir. 1999) (Court has special obligation to construe pro se litigants' pleadings liberally); *Poling v. K.* Hovnanian Enterprises, 99 F.Supp.2d 502, 506-07 (D.N.J. 2000). Defendant has the right to submit pro se briefs on appeal, even though they may be in artfully drawn but the court can reasonably read and understand them. See, Vega v. Johnson, 149 F.3d 354 (5th Cir. 1998). Courts will go to particular pains to protect pro se litigants against consequences of technical errors if injustice would otherwise result. U.S. v. Sanchez, 88 F.3d 1243 (D.C. Cir. 1996). Moreover, "the court is under a duty to examine the complaint to

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instant case, as this Court has previously ruled. As previously stated, Mr. Lomas has misstated, misquoted, misdirected, etc., in order to prevail. In all cases against my landlord (actually the Managing Agent) I have prevailed as a pro se Respondent, including a 62% rent abatement by Civil Court jury trial and a Reverse and Remand in my favor by the Second Circuit. I acknowledge in my first case against them, as respondent, I was represented, I lost. To update Mr. Lomas, last year as Defendant pro se I again Prevailed (dismissed) and in District Court (SDNY) I Prevailed as a represented Plaintiff (by settlement, sealed). There are unfortunately many issues outstanding, but I applaud Mr. Lomas's interest, as perhaps a potential pro bono Counsel? Mr. Lomas certainly has a right to object to my writing style as a non-attorney and I accept his implied criticism, but please, a few points. His quote, for example, "giving blood and taking blood in the lobby". I share his shock at this violation of my and others 'quiet use and enjoyment' etc., but this in fact occurred. Petitioner did not deny this or other facts and subsequently halted this activity due to my Submissions. Again, thank you for your interest. Burke's claims were not dismissed, I was the Defendant. Respondent pro se Prevailed, as previously stated. Only one of Mr. Lomas's untruths. As to the 'Taylor Law' case I have attached a letter which I believe explains outcome. I had temporary agreement for *pro bono* representation by a renowned Labor Law Professor (Rutgers), who opted out due to the dispute between Local 100 and the International (See ex. 2). I

determine if the allegations provide for relief on any possible theory." Bonner v. Circuit Court of St. Louis, 526 F.2d 1331, 1334 (8th Cir. 1975) (quoting Bramlet v. Wilson, 495 F.2d 714, 716 (8th Cir. 1974)). Thus, if this court were to entertain any motion to dismiss this court would have to apply the standards of White v. Bloom. Furthermore, if there is any possible theory that would entitle the Plaintiff to relief, even one that the Plaintiff hasn't thought of, the court cannot dismiss this case."

was given credit for forcing the initiation of our International Labor Organization case wherein we prevailed. Apologies if the Court finds this last paragraph irrelevant.

#### JURISDICTIONAL BAR

As previously stated, we believe opinions on the relevant contract's interpretation by Mr. Sullivan, or for that matter Mr. Adgerson, should be discounted not just for the inherent bias, but as a matter of Jurisdiction. Mr. Sullivan, Government Printing Office's 30(b)(6) witness, was required to testify, for Relator's prima facie, to the facts that Record Press was a winning Contractor for the United States, that they (otherwise) Performed, that the Claims at issue were paid, that they are an ongoing Contractor, etc.. The Jurisdictional Bar, which was inadvertently breached, is in regard to the GPO witness's testimony as to the Falsity of the Claims itself being accepted by Court as Dispositive, or at all. We believe they are, or were, testifying on behalf of the Agency Head and/or as Contracting Officers. Please see again "In such palming off as we have here we do not believe that the Congress ever intended that contracting officers should have the power to vitiate the False Claims statute." [United States v. Nat'l Wholesalers, 236 F.2d 944, 950 (9th Cir. 1956]" and section 605(a) of the Contract Disputes Act, which removes any authority from the head of an agency "to settle, compromise, pay, or otherwise adjust any claim involving fraud." Please see also again Federal Acquisition Regulation 33.210(b), wherein the contracting officer has no authority to settle, compromise, pay or adjust "any claim involving fraud." These Statues appear to bar any Court Jurisdictionally from reliance on Agency Head or Procurement or Contracting Officers and Jurisdictionally proscribe their opining on whether any particular claim was false. If a Court were to rely on testimony by agency heads and/or subordinates, in order to decide falsity these Statutes (Black Letter Law) would be rendered void. We believe this is not the intent of the Court. There is certainly the acknowledged exception wherein a PREVIOUS 'meeting of the minds' (between Contractor and Contractee), as per case law quoted above, is potentially exculpatory evidence against falsity. In the instant case there was not a prior 'meeting of the minds' as sworn testimony and Deposition show (see above). This Court does appear to prefer some testimony as to what the proper contract interpretation should be. Relator's and Defendant's opinion as to falsity were reasonably construed as containing a legal bias, and we clearly request that GPO witnesses testimony as to falsity be discounted Jurisdictionally and for Bias. Record Press pretends to feign shock as to Relator challenging the veracity of the GPO witnesses and clearly believe, or want to believe, that GPO officers are allowed to resolve a false claim ex post facto without a prior meeting of minds. They cannot. We know what Congress intended with the above Statutes; to remove Agency employees Jurisdictionally from resolving False Claims. Why? Because they (Congress) believe the contrary would allow a Moral Hazard. Mr. Sullivan is certainly allowed his opinion on any subject, via the 1<sup>st</sup> Amendment, but by Statue and Case law it cannot be used to resolve falsity. We ask, in order to assist the Court and referencing our pending Motion for Amended Judgment, that Expert Witness Mr. Gocial be allowed to testify as to proper contract interpretation and the implications of the 'spreadsheets'. The alternative, that the Court decide, within Amended Judgment, on the 'four corners' of the IFB program 2231-S/1272-S and our explanation of the **whole** spreadsheet (RP00069, ex.2), which is the only explanation in the Record.

#### COUNTERCLAIM

Defendant served and filed a Counterclaim against Counterclaim Defendant Brian Burke (but not The United States) incorporated within Answer on June 28, 2008 (Dct. 10). Defendant requested, and was granted, an extension of time to answer claim beyond Statue 20 days (Dct. 9). Relator's agreement with Murphy Anderson plc., hopefully not violating confidentiality, did not include a reciprocal obligation they represent Burke for any counterclaim. Nevertheless, Murphy Anderson generously chose to represent Counterclaim Defendant Brian Burke. A motion for attorney's fees and expenses has not yet been filed by Counterclaim Defendant. A Motion for Attorneys Fees and Expenses by Counterclaim Defendant will be filed and served after tolling of now pending motions and/or Notice of Appeal. Counterclaim Defendant filed an Omnibus Motion to Dismiss/For Summary Judgment a week after 02/14/11 Bench Trial for Liability. The instant case was bifurcated and Counterclaim Defendant pro se was barred from entering evidence or examining or cross-examining witnesses at Trial. Instead of addressing merits of Counterclaim Defendant's Omnibus Motion for Summary Judgment(Dct. 70), Record Press moved for Voluntary Dismissal under Fed. R. Civ. P. 41(a)2. The Court Granted Counterclaimant's Dismissal on May, 21 2013. This had the effect of 'mooting' Counterclaimant's pending motions and thus no Judgment on the merits of the Counterclaim. Counterclaimant understands that there is presumption in Law and/or Case Law that the Movant of a Granted Voluntary Dismissal is not the Prevailing Party, the Non-Movant is. There is a fee shifting presumption, in that case, for non-movant and recovery is pre-ordained. Counterclaimant, within Served and Filed and Recorded Motions Affidavits and Exhibits, stated said Counterclaim was Frivolous, Vexatious and

Harassing (See dct. 77 pg.  $3^2 & 74^3$ ). The Common Law Counterclaim was for "Tortious Interference with Prospective Economic Advantage" (Dct. 10). There has been extensive evidence and Testimony, including within instant motion, that Record Press's contractual relationship has continued unabated with GPO and that there is (false claims aside) satisfaction with their performance. There admittedly appears to be no hostility or dispute at any time between contractor and contractee, albeit we still insist there was no actual 'meeting of minds' until Trial or after (see above). So where is or was the 'tort' within the 'tortious interference'? Who was victimized? Counterclaimant, by Record Press admittedly harassing prior Counsel for the People, Murphy Anderson plc., off the case and their clear attempt to do the same with Mr. King now (see instant motion). This is 'tortious interference', proven harm. McKenna Long is seeking fee shifting for an amount allegedly billed to defend against Claim, and Prosecute Counterclaim. So how much of alleged billing was for Counterclaim? 50%? If they claim it was 0%, then they have affirmed their FAILURE TO PROSECUTE COUNTERCLAIM! Failure to

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> "Fed. R. Civ. P. 41(a)(2) Defendant, acting in Bad Faith, is attempting to Dismiss it's "clearly frivolous, clearly vexatious, or brought primarily for the purposes of harassment" (see § 3730(d)(4)) Counterclaim in order to Prejudice Petitioner pro se (see Plaintiff's Reply to Opposition [dct. 74 pg. 3] " I. MR. BURKE'S MOTION IS NOT **MOOT**")" [emphasis in original].

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> "I. MR. BURKE'S MOTION IS NOT MOOT Defendant/Feasor, in attempting its 'having your cake and eat it too' Defense (not to be confused with Government Knowledge Defense, see Omnibus attachment [Dct. 70]), like 2231-S Bid-rigging, tries its Cognitive Dissonance. Defendant appears to concede all facts in Omnibus Motion by Omission (see above) in Documents 72 & 73 without explicitly conceding case. Record Press is attempting to vacate it's "clearly frivolous, clearly vexatious, or brought primarily for the purposes of harassment" (see § 3730(d)(4)) Counterclaim as a 'Queen Sacrifice' to save Record Press from Liability, as admitted. Like with the Queen Sacrifice, Defendant reserves the right to re-litigate (Resurrect) Counter-claim, perhaps with some forum shopping. Counterclaimant is attempting, through prestidigitation, to end Plaintiff's Due Process Rights to defend against pending Counterclaim and block the Court from accessing Verified Facts & Law within pending Omnibus Motion [Dct. 70]."

prosecute a claim, or counterclaim, is the <u>VERY DEFINITION OF VEXATIOUS</u>, HARASSING AND FRIVOLOUS! Mr. Lomas, no doubt an intelligent man, will attempt the impossible in walking us through the looking glass. The implied premise is that this Counterclaim, or any counterclaim, is a free shot at Claimant, without taxable costs or Remedy, regardless of outcome. He will suggest they performed no work on Counterclaim while equally suggesting they prosecuted, or at least intended to prosecute, same. Cake and eat it too. Sweet. He will equally suggest that Murphy Anderson plc. and Counterclaimant pro se, spent no time on Counterclaim Defense, with no proof. Relator has been informed that Murphy Anderson plc. spent approximately \$200,000 on properly prosecuting Claim and defending Counterclaim. Like McKenna Long, they have not yet released details on what was spent on each. Mr. Lomas will suggest the Court tax Relator for their work on both. By the same argument Murphy Anderson should collect for their work on Claim and Counterclaim, as Counterclaimant Prevailed on May 21, 2013. Mr. Lomas may choose to persuade the Court that they failed to prosecute Counterclaim due to their epic and actionable lack of evidence, or any slight facts, and their failure to state a (counter)claim. Murphy Anderson and Relator/Counterclaim Defendant believed that Record Press's admittedly substantial (in size, pgs. 116, not merit) Rule 11 Motion (Dct. #27) was actually part of the Counterclaim as it was clearly against Brian Burke individually and included the same fallacious and frivolous arguments as instant motion. Nevertheless, McKenna Long lost that motion and they are seeking the cost of the lost motion against Counterclaimant. They also lost two (substantial in size but not merit) Motions for Summary Judgment (Dct.#17pgs.106, dct.#44pgs. 229), again apparently to be taxed against Relator. See also Fed. R. Civ. P, § 41(d). Rule 41(d) provides that: "If a

plaintiff who has once dismissed an action in any court commences an action based upon or including the same claim against the same defendant, the court may make such order for the payment of costs of the action previously dismissed as it may deem proper and may stay the proceedings in the action until the plaintiff has complied with the order." The instant Motion for Attorney's Fees and Costs is considered an independent action (see White v. New Hamsphire. Dep't of Employment Sec., 455 U.S. 445, 451, 102 S. Ct. 1162, 71 L. Ed. 2d 325 (1982); Obin v. International Ass'n of Machinists & Aerospace Workers, 651 F.2d 574, 584 (8th Cir. 1981). and is clearly a re-initiation of Dismissed Counterclaim. See Counterclaim Defendant's Opposition to Record Press, Inc.'s Motion for Voluntary Dismissal (dkt.74 pgs.3,4) "Defendant has not even waived, however temporarily, their Counterclaim, even without Prejudice. See Opposition, [Dkt. 73] page 4 pg3 "The only remaining matters are ............... and any subsequent proceedings related to that decision, such as, for example, a motion for fees and costs." Plaintiff will be serving a Motion for Fees & Costs for now admitted Frivolous, Vexatious & Harassing Counterclaim. Defendant would be simply be making "an improper attempt to reargue the merits and delay final resolution" of Counterclaim." Record Press is attempting to reargue the merits of the Claim in order to force this Court to change Decision from that of their merely prevailing (we acknowledge the Court, at this time, believes our evidence insufficient to prevail (pending Amended Judgment request)) to that of 'Frivolous, Vexatious and Harassing' (31 USC § 3730) standard it acknowledges is required for instant motion. Thus, in the interest of justice, an Amended Judgment(see Plaintiff's pending Motion for Amended Judgment) should be ordered.

#### TO DEFER CONSIDERATION OF THE CLAIM OF FEES

Within Fed. R. Civ. P. 58, ENTERING JUDGMENT Notes of Advisory Committee on Rules—1993 Amendment "Particularly if the claim for fees involves substantial issues or is likely to be affected by the appellate decision, the district court may prefer to defer consideration of the claim for fees until after the appeal is resolved." (law.cornel.edu). We concur and note Relator has filed contemporaneous Notice of Appeal (att.).

#### LEGAL PRECEDENT

The False Claims Act provides at 31 U.S.C. §3730(d)(4) that "[i]f the Government does not proceed with the action and the person bringing the action conducts the action, the court may award to the defendant its reasonable attorneys' fees and expenses if the defendant prevails in the action and the court finds that the claim of the person bringing the action was clearly frivolous, clearly vexatious, or brought primarily for purposes of harassment." "The Fourth Circuit recently addressed this issue. *United States ex rel. Ubl* v. IIF Data Solutions et al., (No. 09-2280, April 19, 2011). In Ubl, the district court ordered the relator to pay the defendant attorney's fees in excess of \$500,000. The district court made that order notwithstanding the following facts: 1) The relator and the defendant had entered into a settlement for almost nine million dollars that fell apart only because the government refused to approve it; 2) the district court twice denied defendant's motions to dismiss; 3) the district court denied defendant's motion for summary judgment. The Fourth Circuit reversed the district court's award of attorney's fees to the defendant and held that the legal standard must be whether the relator's "claims objectively had any reasonable chance of success." Id, at 22. Although the Fourth Circuit upheld the jury's verdict in favor of the defendant, it found that the relator's claims did have a reasonable chance of success, and reversed the district court's

award of fees to the defendant." In the instant case we can work backward, 3) our district court did not deny one motion for summary judgment but TWO, document 17, filed 10/01/2008, Terminated 06/24/2009,106 pages, and document 44, filed on the one year anniversary of their previous defeat, 06/24/2010, Terminated 02/11/2011, pages 229.

2). We have a Motion to Dismiss wherein Defendant prevailed, their **MOTION TO** VOLUNTARILY DISMISS THEIR FRIVOLOUS, NO EVIDENCE, FREE SHOT, **VEXATIOUS, HARASSING COUNTERCLAIM!** Should that count? We think so. Then there is Record Press's substantial (in terms of pages) Motion for Sanctions (Fed. R. Civ. P. 11) document 27, filed 12/04/2008, Terminated on the same day as first summary judgment motion, 06/24/2009, pages 106. Lets call it two summary judgment motions and two motions to dismiss they lost. So what about 1)? Well as we see within instant motion (pg. 29) "Given the thousands of invoices Burke claimed to be fraudulent, civil penalties could have totaled approximately \$15 million. *Id.*" Record Press could not settle this claim AS THEY DO NOT HAVE THE MONEY! Thus they are required to fight until the Petition for Writ of Certiorari.

#### **MITIGATION**

So both parties appear to acknowledge that Record Press cannot pay the damages required under 31 USC § 3729, what would be the outcome if they had lost, or were to lose? We do not know. Would the United States (receiving 70-85% of recovery) own Record Press? Does it want to? Maybe not. Is that a fact the courts have, or this Court will, take into account? Relator affirms that lack of ability to pay damages/fines under 31 USC § 3729 should not mitigate falsity. As to 'small, employee-owned' (id. pg. 11), we

4 http://www.wyche.com/article/recoveries-and-protections-for-whistleblowers-underthe-false-claims-act

are informed that employees of Record Press receive some of their pay in stock, but we are unclear whether any stock has ever been distributed to or voted by same, or any earnings have been distributed, or what class of stock is involved (see Wilmot Deposition). As to 'small' maybe, there are different standards. We again request, or request clarification, as to whether Record Press intends the Court see this, and 'employee-ownership', as a potential mitigation. We are requesting an Amended Judgment to allow this court to overturn or revise what we consider to be a precedent that will rend the civil Federal False Claims Act. Mr. Lomas, in his Memorandum of Points and Authorities uses 'Wilmot Deposition' to make their prima facie case for fee shifting, (Dct. 94-main, pg.11) "Ex. 1, Transcript of Deposition of Hugh Wilmot, Jr. ("Wilmot Dep. Tr.") 6:17-7:3.)". We agree that Mr. Wilmot is the sole decision maker regarding contract interpretation for Record Press since the initiation of his presidency. We acknowledge the fraud (actually 'false claims') started prior to said tenure, and Mr. Wilmot is perhaps underpaid to have to deal with his inherited 'rock and a hard place', but again request clarification as to whether this fact is or will be considered mitigation. Unfair maybe, but we must enforce the False Claims Act to deny companies large and, yes, small from unlawfully grabbing tax-payer monies. Perhaps Congress could amend the law to make the fines affordable, but that arguably has not been their intent. Mr. Wilmot stated clearly under oath that there was never any meeting of minds regarding contract terms, no discussion period. Perhaps he believed (via Counsel?<sup>5</sup>) we were required to prove intent? This is not the case, as shown previously. So we have the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> 'Though he had no basis for it, Burke alleged that Record Press had defrauded – *knowingly lied* – to the United States government.'(dct. 94-main, pg. 29)

Contract. The Contract shows that the winning contractor for IFB program 2231-S/1272-S must apply 'running rate' to 'collating, trimming to size and binding'. Simple. Record Press has succeeded in muddying the waters (with all due respect to America's greatest musician, McKinley Morganfield) and temporarily out-lawyering us. Mr. Lomas, and Record Press, have succeeded in confusing the court through half-truths, prestidigitation, willful misstatements, misdirection and obfuscation, as shown. Mr. Lomas & co. forgot about the Motion In Limine, which they lost (Dct. 59, filed 12/16/2010, Terminated 02/03/2011) thus allowing Relator to speak as to contract interpretation at Trial. This appears to have been overlooked within June 12, 2013 Memorandum and Order and instant motion. As to their defeated motion, "Mr. Burke, who is not offered as an expert, may not offer any opinion testimony concerning the interpretation of any Record Press-GPO contract." (Dct. #59 pg.3). This, of course, holds true for Mr. Sullivan, not offered as an expert. Have your cake and eat it too. So in the instant case and June 12, 2013 Memorandum & Order we have a sea change in the definition of 'meeting of minds', which we believe was not the courts intent. The People are clearly requesting an Amended Judgment to 'un-muddy' the waters and restore the rights of the United States and the jurisdiction of the Federal False Claims Act. McKenna Long & Aldridge LLP, renowned litigators against the FCA (See dct.#94-1,pg.1, etc.) have achieved an overwhelming victory by prevailing at all, however temporarily, given their inability to retain even one expert witness to testify on their behalf <sup>6</sup>, their loss on four or more dispositive motions and most importantly the undeniable, but avoided, fact that a plain

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Mr. Gocial was apparently barred from contract interpretation testimony, an issue we will request be reviewed or allowed within Amended Judgment.

reading of relevant contract shows their client defrauded the United States more than they can afford to pay back. Victory is sweet. Law students will be studying their victorious gimmicks for the next century or more. The best, and perhaps prevailing, gimmick is certainly the 'spreadsheets'. Mr. Wilmot stated that he did not rely on this document for his contract interpretation but instead the 'four corners' of the contract<sup>7</sup>. (Ex. 1. Wilmot depo. Pg. 84 lines 16-18) "Record Press is not responsible for any numbers that enters into this particular table and the interpretation of this particular table[RP000069][emphasis added]". Record Press, by counsel, again has it's cake and eats it too, this is also known as cognitive dissonance. Mr. Wilmot eschewed this document in his deposition because it shows the intent we are not required to prove under False Claims Act. Certainly he is aware, and we have shown, that Record Press should not be billing at all for Collating, Trimming to Size and Binding! McKenna Long's 'muddying the waters' by demanding, without logic, the court view a tiny snippet of the spreadsheet Mr. Wilmot swore he did not use. A great victory yes, but also a death of a thousand cuts for the False Claims Act, rendering it moot. This is unfortunate and we

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Ex. 1 pg.#83 line2-84line21 "BY MR. KING: Q. Do you – do you recognize this document? [RP000069, ex. 2] A. Yes, I Do. Q. And what type of document is this? A. This document is a breakdown that generally accompanies the RFP submitted by the GPO to every vendor or potential contractor for this particular **program.** [emphasis in original] Q. Okay. And if you look down there for Record Press, and you go down to where it says collating, trimming to size, and binding per 100 pages, the basis of the order 14, the unit rate of 12.25, do you see that that's written there? ..... THE WITNESS: [Mr. Wilmot] Correct. I see it. BY MR KING: Q. And is it – is it your testimony that these particular entries under Record Press's column are entries corresponding to the RFP that Record Press submitted?......THE WITNESS: I don't know. BY MR KING: Q. Okay. So Mr. Wilmot, you didn't prepare the document? A. **That's correct.** ..... THE WITNESS: The previous question was, did I prepare this document being this spreadsheet layout, no. Record Press did not create this. This is not a Record Press product. Record Press is not responsible for any numbers that enters into this particular table and the interpretation of this particular table [emphasis added].....

again pray the court grant an Amended Judgment and deny fees and stay Bill of Costs (dct. 95) until case is finally decided.

#### **LCvR 54.2**

#### (b) DETERMINATION OF ATTORNEYS FEES PENDING APPEAL.

If a status conference described in paragraph (a) is held, the court shall ascertain whether an appeal is being taken by either party, and if so, whether the appeal is on all or fewer than all issues. If a party has not finally decided whether to appeal, the court may allow the party reasonable additional time to reach such a decision. After a decision has been made that there will be an appeal, the court shall make a specific determination as to whether, in the interest of justice, the fee issues, in whole or in part, should be considered or be held in abeyance pending the outcome of the appeal.

#### **DEFENDANT'S OWN CASE LAW**

Defendant was kind enough inform the Court and Plaintiff about two Decisions, apparently the only two they could find out of thousands of filed FCA actions, wherein the courts shifted fees to relator, United States ex rel. Cooper v. Bernard Hodes Group, Inc., 422 F.Supp.2d 225, 238 (D. D.C., 2006), and again, see above, U.S. ex rel. Ubl v. IIF Data Solutions, 650 F.3d 445. We will try to be brief. As can be imagined, there are vastly different fact and applicable case law structures in every FCA case. Some prevail, some are defeated and a tiny percentage are ruled "frivolous, vexatious or harassing". We acknowledge a claim (or counterclaim) may in fact be used solely to harass, vex, or be deemed frivolous, in fact, we have contended this all along for the no evidence Counterclaim, and by their actions Defendant concurs. In *Ubl v. IIF Data* we have a successful 'Government Knowledge' defense. See attached Fourth Circuit Reinforces

Significance Of 'Government Knowledge' Defense In FCA Cases David M. Nadler and Justin A. Chiarodo, "The Fourth Circuit rejected Ubl's narrow interpretation of the Government knowledge defense. The Court found "no reason" why the Government's knowledge would be irrelevant simply because the Government employees with knowledge did not happen to pay the contractor's invoices." See also Fourth Circuit Issues Significant Opinion on "Government Knowledge Defense" in False Claims Act Case McKenna Long & Aldridge, attached "The court soundly rejected the argument and affirmed the trial court, finding: "Evidence that the government knew about the facts underlying an allegedly false claim can serve to distinguish between the knowing submission of a false claim, which generally is actionable under the FCA, and the submission of a claim that turned out to be incorrect, which generally is not actionable under the FCA. That is, "the government's knowledge of the facts underlying an allegedly false record or statement can negate the scienter required for an FCA violation..... IIF, No. 09-2280, slip op. at 13 (4th Cir. Apr. 19, 2011) (citations omitted)."" And "It is not uncommon for relators and sometimes even the government itself to argue that "government knowledge" is no defense to an FCA case or that only the knowledge of some select group of government employees is relevant to such a defense. The *IIF* ruling will provide great assistance to defendants in rebutting such arguments." We concede that PRIOR KNOWLEDGE (sorry for the shouting) would constitute a viable and/or successful defense. Not ex post facto! If the courts now believe that a relator's awareness of prior knowledge between Government and Contractor constitutes a frivolous, vexatious or harassing claim than in the contrary when a defendant states (under oath in deposition) there was no Prior Knowledge or Meeting of Minds their

defense, and specifically their instant motion, **must be deemed frivolous**! See "In interpreting § 3730(d)(4), several other Circuits have relied upon the Supreme Court's definition of frivolous found in the Title VII and 42 U.S.C § 1988 contexts. See, e.g., U.S. ex rel. Grynberg v. Praxair, Inc., 389 F.3d 1038, 1058 (10th Cir. 2004)(citing Christiansburg Garment Co. v. E.E.O.C, 434 U.S. 412 (1978)); see also Hughes v. Rowe,

"groundless or without foundation, rather than simply that the [relator] has ultimately lost

449 U.S. 5 (1980). Under this definition, an award is justified when a relator's claims are

his case." *Christiansburg*, 434 U.S. 412 (1978). Put another way, "[a] successful defendant... must demonstrate that the plaintiff has misused his statutory privilege and

distorted the intent of the legislation." *Grynberg*, 389 F.3d at 1058 n. 22.3." (Dct. 94-1,

pg. 96 UBL v. IFF, Memorandum Opinion, motion for fees)

Cooper v. Hodes was cited twice within same Order (Id pg. 96) "A number of courts have recognized alternatively that "the government's [prior] awareness of the circumstances constituting the alleged transgression makes any legal claim of fraud" frivolous or vexatious for the purposes of § 3730(d)(4). U.S. ex rel. J. Cooper & Associates, Inc. v. Bernard Hodes Group, Inc., 422 F.Supp.2d 225, 239. (D.D.C. 2006); see also United States ex rel Bane v. Breathe Easy Pulmonary Services, Inc., 2009 WL 1148632, at \*5 (M.D.Fla. 2009) (noting that courts have recognized claims of fraud are vexatious "where the government's undisputed prior knowledge of alleged to constitute fraud defeated any inference of a false claim"); U.S. ex rel. J. Cooper & Associates, Inc. v. Bernard Hodes Group, Inc., All F.Supp.2d 225,239 (D.D.C. 2006) ("The government's decision to award contracts to the defendants, despite its knowledge that the defendants were not small or disadvantaged businesses, negates any claim of fraud against the

defendants."); United States ex rel. Minna Ree Winer Children's Trust v. Regions Bank of Louisiana, 1996 WL 264981, at \*7 (E.D.La. 1996). In other words, and as was the case here, when a company works closely with the government, and the government is well aware of particular aspects of a company's practices, a claim for fraud premised on those practices proves groundless." I guess that's that. In the instant Claim we have NO PRIOR KNOWLEDGE (again sorry for the shouting) and thus a new issue of frivolousness, harassment and vexatiousness, Defendant's instant motion! Record Press had/has no basis to bring this independent action according to their own cited case law and evidence and were/are aware of this! We welcome a sua sponte ruling from this Court awarding Relator attorney's fees and expenses for Defendant's Frivolous Vexatious and Harassing Motion for Attorney's Fees and Expenses, Denial of Motion and pray grant us an Amended Judgment on our favor.

Brian Burke, Relator

145 east 23rd street #4R

New York, NY 10010

Dated July 10, 2013

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HARRY LOMBARDO

President

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December 13, 2011

John Samuelsen TWU Local 100, President 1700 Broadway, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor New York, NY 10019

RE: Brian Burke's challenge to the Taylor Law

Dear John:

As you know, we correctly predicted that Brian Burke's appeal to the 2<sup>nd</sup> circuit from the dismissal of his *pro se* lawsuit on the Taylor Law would be unsuccessful and create bad precedent, and we asked the Local not to support it. Now I have been informed by someone outside TWU that Local 100 is considering asking its General Counsel to submit an amicus brief in support of Burke's petition for the United States Supreme Court to review the decision of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Circuit dismissing his case.

Filed: 01/07/2015

Seeking Supreme Court review of this decision would not help our efforts to modify the Taylor Law and implement the case we won in the ILO protecting the right to strike, as the Supreme Court would almost certainly deny review, giving the stamp of finality to the decision of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Circuit. It is not in the interest of TWU or its members to seek Supreme Court review, and I ask that you instruct your Counsel not to support this effort.

We are working on a strategy to give effect to our recent victory in the ILO, which as you know found the Taylor Law to be in violation of international law protecting freedom of association and the right to strike. I ask that the Local direct its efforts to supporting that strategy.

In solidarity

James C. Little

International President

JCL:tt opelu-153

c: Harry Lombardo Gary E. Maslanka David Rosen Joseph C. Gordon Jeffrey L. Brooks, Sr. Larry Cary, Local 100 General Counsel ther use without the permission of West is prohibited. For further information about this publication, please visit www.west.thomson.com/store, or call 800.328.9352.

# THE GOVERNMENT CONTRACTOR® WEST®

Information and Analysis on Legal Aspects of Procurement

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#### **Focus**

#### ¶ 191

# FEATURE COMMENT: Fourth Circuit Reinforces Significance Of 'Government Knowledge' Defense In FCA Cases

U.S. ex rel. Ubl v. IIF Data Solutions, 2011 WL 1474783 (4th Cir. April 19, 2011)

On April 19, 2011, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit affirmed the complete defense verdict in *U.S. ex rel. Ubl v. IIF Data Solutions*. The appeal followed a trial in the Eastern District of Virginia in which the jury found for the defendant on all counts in a False Claims Act lawsuit brought in connection with the award and performance of the defendant's General Services Administration schedule contracts. *Ubl* provides useful guidance on the enforceability of settlement agreements in FCA actions if the Government does not intervene. More notably, *Ubl* reinforces the significance and viability of the "Government knowledge" defense in FCA cases.

Under the "Government knowledge" defense or inference, the Government's awareness of the facts underlying an alleged false claim or statement can negate the scienter required to establish that a defendant knowingly submitted a false claim. Because the FCA is not designed to punish "honest mistakes," courts have looked to Government officials' knowledge to evaluate whether a defendant acted with requisite intent—the knowing submission of what is known to be false. The Court in *Ubl* thoughtfully summarized one illustration of the defense:

if the government with full knowledge of the relevant facts directed a contractor to file a claim that was later challenged as false, the fact that the contractor did what the government told it to do would go a long way towards establishing that the contractor did not knowingly file a claim known to be false.

*Ubl* shows that the defense remains viable for contractors accused of FCA violations.

IIF Data Solutions was a small GSA contractor with a Federal Supply Schedule contract for information technology services. Its contract included six labor categories, including positions for analysts, programmers and related IT functions. As is typical of GSA schedules for services, the labor categories included descriptions of the education, experience and skills required for employees to be assigned to the categories. IIF received millions of dollars in task orders under its IT schedule, the majority coming from the National Guard Bureau (Guard Bureau).

Relator Thomas Ubl, a former IIF employee, filed an FCA action alleging a variety of frauds perpetrated by IIF both before and after obtaining its GSA schedule contracts. Ubl alleged that IIF misrepresented its pricing and discounting practices as part of its initial schedule application (for example, by fabricating its commercial price list). Ubl further alleged that IIF billed for employees in labor categories that were not consistent with their education and experience, and improperly billed the Government for work not performed. The Government declined to intervene in the case.

After two years of discovery, IIF and Ubl agreed to settle the case in May 2008, with IIF to pay \$8.9 million dollars to Ubl over several years. The settlement agreement stated that it was void without Government approval. Unfortunately for Ubl, the Government raised numerous objections to the proposed settlement. The Government objected to the percentage of the relators' share, the allocation of proposed settlement proceeds to the relator's so-called "personal claims," and the defendant's ability to pay. Two days after communicating its initial concerns, the Government informed the parties that it "would never consent" to the initial agreement.

4-092-388-9

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The parties continued to work towards a settlement. In a mediation before a magistrate judge, IIF offered to settle Ubl's claims for \$2.7 million. Ubl rejected that offer, and continued to seek the Government's approval for the initial \$8.9 million offer. In September 2009, Ubl ultimately obtained the Government's agreement in principle to the May 2008 settlement agreement. IIF maintained that the Government had clearly repudiated the May 2008 settlement, and the agreement was void by its terms. Ubl was unable to enforce the settlement agreement with the district court and lost at trial on all counts.

On appeal, Ubl argued that the district court erred in refusing to enforce the initial \$8.9 million settlement agreement. Ubl maintained that he had satisfied the condition in the agreement—Government consent that was necessary to bind IIF. The Fourth Circuit rejected Ubl's argument, noting that the settlement agreement was contingent on Government approval, consistent with the FCA requirement that the Government consent to the dismissal of an FCA claim brought by a private party. See 31 USCA § 3730(b) (1). The Court found that the Government definitively rejected the agreement in correspondence with the parties in July 2008, citing the Government's statement that it "would never consent" to the May agreement as originally drafted. This meant that the Government no longer had the power to accept the May agreement and it was void by its own terms.

More notable than the Court's ruling on the repudiated settlement was its decision on evidence admitted at trial supporting a "Government knowledge" defense. At the start of the trial, Ubl sought unsuccessfully to preclude evidence that the Guard Bureau could alter the terms of GSA contracts or that the Guard Bureau approved of the personnel assigned to its projects and was satisfied with their performance. Ubl argued that the personnel IIF provided did not meet the labor category requirements in IIF's schedule, and that the Guard Bureau was unable to alter the terms of that schedule as a matter of law. Ubl further argued that any "Government knowledge" defense was not available to IIF because no GSA personnel were aware of the facts related to IIF's labor billing practices and claims. Only GSA officials were sent (and paid) invoices for IIF's work for the Guard Bureau.

The Fourth Circuit rejected Ubl's narrow interpretation of the Government knowledge defense. The Court found "no reason" why the Government's knowledge would be irrelevant simply because the Government employees with knowledge did not happen to pay the contractor's invoices. Further, IIF's close working relationship with Guard Bureau employees on its various contracts meant that the Bureau's knowledge was relevant to whether IIF acted with the requisite intent. In support of its finding, the court cited U.S. ex rel. Bulbaw v. Orenduff, 548 F.3d 931, 951-54 (10th Cir. 2008), in which the Tenth Circuit considered the knowledge of Department of Education employees in its analysis of the Government knowledge defense related to a Defense Department contract. Ubl suggests that the Government knowledge defense should be construed broadly, based on the totality of the facts related to contract award and performance.

Ubl underscores the significance and viability of the Government knowledge defense in an FCA case. Ubl sought to prevent the jury from hearing evidence that the Government approved of the employees assigned to Guard Bureau task orders, and evidence that the Government was pleased with the defendant's work. The total defense verdict following Ubl's unsuccessful efforts to exclude such evidence demonstrates how strongly Government knowledge resonates with fact-finders, and how helpful Government knowledge can be to a defense against FCA allegations. The Fourth Circuit's decision not to limit the Government knowledge defense to only those individuals who pay claims is sensible and consistent with the fact that the FCA was not designed to punish "honest mistakes" with punitive FCA liability. Ubl serves as a continued reminder that the Government knowledge defense is alive and well.



This Feature Comment was written for The Government Contractor by David M. Nadler, a partner, and Justin A. Chiarodo, an associate, with Dickstein Shapiro LLP, specializing in Government contracts matters, including the False Claims Act and compliance matters. Mr. Nadler may be contacted at NadlerD@dicksteinshapiro. com, and Mr. Chiarodo may be contacted at ChiarodoJ@dicksteinshapiro.com.

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### **Government Contracts Advisory**

APRIL 27, 2011

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## Fourth Circuit Issues Significant Opinion on "Government Knowledge Defense" in False Claims Act Case

Last week, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit issued its most recent pro-defense ruling in a civil False Claims Act ("FCA") *qui tam* case, *United States ex rel. Ubl v. IIF Data Solutions, Inc., et al.,* No. 09-2280. At the appellate level, the case involved a number of challenges by Ubl, the *qui tam* relator, to the jury verdict in favor of the defendants that had followed an extensive trial in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia. The appellate court rejected all of these challenges—including, perhaps most significantly, Ubl's assertion that the trial judge had improperly admitted certain evidence relating to the government's knowledge of the facts and circumstances giving rise to the allegedly false claims. Consequently, the court's opinion could be of value to future defendants seeking to rely upon what is commonly known as the "government knowledge defense" to an FCA claim. MLA served as co-counsel in the case, both at trial and in the appeal.

The *IIF* case involved allegations by UbI that IIF had fraudulently induced the award of three separate GSA Schedule contracts and then had provided unqualified or under-qualified personnel to its main government customer, the National Guard Bureau ("NGB"), under task orders issued under those Schedule contracts. At the beginning of trial, UbI asked the district court to preclude IIF from presenting any evidence regarding NGB's satisfaction with the quality of the personnel IIF provided. UbI argued that this evidence was inadmissible because only GSA had the contractual authority to alter the terms of IIF's Schedule contracts. Thus, he asserted, the government knowledge defense would only be available to IIF if GSA employees had knowledge of the facts relating to IIF's claims for payment. The trial judge rejected UbI's argument and allowed IIF to present evidence that demonstrated that NGB had been pleased with the work performed by specific IIF employees and with IIF's work overall.

In the Fourth Circuit, Ubl renewed its argument regarding the admissibility of the NGB evidence. The court soundly rejected the argument and affirmed the trial court, finding:

Evidence that the government knew about the facts underlying an allegedly false claim can serve to distinguish between the knowing submission of a false claim, which generally is actionable under the FCA, and the submission of a claim that turned out to be incorrect, which generally is not actionable under the FCA. That is, "the government's knowledge of the facts underlying an allegedly false record or statement can negate the scienter required for an FCA violation."

\*\*\*

We see no reason why the government's knowledge would become irrelevant simply because the employees with the knowledge do not

the federal government, was IIF's customer, and IIF worked closely with [NGB] employees when performing its various contracts. Because IIF was working closely with the [NGB] on the very contracts that are the subject of this FCA action, we believe that the [NGB's] knowledge of IIF's performance under the contracts was relevant to the question of whether IIF acted with the requisite intent.

IIF, No. 09-2280, slip op. at 13 (4th Cir. Apr. 19, 2011) (citations omitted).

It is not uncommon for relators and sometimes even the government itself to argue that "government knowledge" is no defense to an FCA case or that only the knowledge of some select group of government employees is relevant to such a defense. The *IIF* ruling will provide great assistance to defendants in rebutting such arguments.

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#### LEXSEE 45 IDAHO L. REV. 41

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ARTICLE: THE GOVERNMENT KNOWLEDGE DEFENSE TO THE CIVIL FALSE CLAIMS ACT: A MISNOMER BY ANY OTHER NAME DOES NOT SOUND AS SWEET

NAME: MICHAEL J. DAVIDSON\*

BIO:

\* B.S., U.S. Military Academy, 1982; J.D., College of William & Mary, 1988; LL.M. (Military Law), The Army's Judge Advocate General's School, 1994; LL.M. (Government Procurement Law), George Washington University (GWU) School of Law, 1998; S.J.D., GWU, 2007. The author is a federal attorney. The opinions contained in this article are those of the author and do not reflect the position of any federal agency or the United States Government.

#### **SUMMARY:**

... A Phoenix Rises from the Ashes: The Development of the Government Knowledge Defense In 1986, in addition to eliminating the government knowledge-based jurisdictional bar, Congress clarified the FCA's scienter element, making it clear that the United States need not prove specific intent in order to establish that the defendant acted knowingly when it submitted a false claim or statement to the United States. ... Citing several dated cases, the court pointed out that "b ecause FCA liability requires an element of fraud or falsity, courts have disallowed FCA claims where the Government knew, or was in possession at the time of the claim, of the facts that make the claim false." ... Hagood In Hagood, a qui tam relator brought suit alleging that the water agency had presented false cost allocation information to the United States to obtain an Army Corps of Engineers contract. ... The contractor in this scenario is still attempting to defraud the United States, and that fact remains unchanged even when the contracting officer or some other relevant acquisition official discovers the misconduct. ... The Tenth Circuit noted that the court in Butler had rejected the position that only a contracting officer's knowledge was relevant for purposes of determining whether a defendant had acted knowingly. ... For purposes of this defense, the legally relevant authority extends beyond that possessed by contracting officers to other procurement officials "with authority to act under the contract." ... Significantly, government employees, including procurement officials, lack the authority to waive fraudulent conduct. ... Further, contractors will be held responsible for knowing the limitations on the authority of government contracting officials when such limitations were contained in published laws or regulations. ... Finding the regulators satisfactory, the Army's Contracting Officer accepted them as "equal" to the Delco-Remy regulators, and the contractor furnished the remaining regulators.

#### TEXT:

#### I. INTRODUCTION

The Civil False Claims Act n1 (FCA) serves as the United States Government's preeminent tool for addressing fraud. n2 The FCA's application has expanded beyond its initial focus on defense procurement fraud to embrace most federally funded government programs. n3 The largest recoveries under the FCA are currently obtained in health care fraud cases. n4 As a fraud fighting tool, the FCA has proven extremely successful, at least in terms of the fraud-related monetary recoveries. Since 1986, the United States has recovered more than \$ 20 billion under the FCA. n5

In response to the government's aggressive use of the FCA, the defense bar has developed several defenses to FCA claims. n6 One such defense that has enjoyed a measure of success is the inappropriately named "government knowledge defense." The government knowledge defense is a misnomer to the extent the term implies that government knowledge of alleged wrongdoing, by itself, affords a complete defense to an FCA lawsuit. Indeed, the scope of the defense is much narrower. To the extent knowledge of wrongdoing by government officials constitutes a defense at all, such knowledge serves as a defense to the FCA's scienter element; that is, the alleged misconduct was not committed knowingly. In other words, the defendant could not have knowingly violated the FCA because the government knew about the conduct and authorized it, either explicitly or tacitly; or, at the very minimum, the defendant reasonably believed that the government was aware of, and in agreement with, the challenged conduct.

This article will examine the government knowledge defense, reviewing its development and examining its present state. Part II first provides an overview of the FCA. Part III then examines the development of the defense, distinguishing between the pre-1986 jurisdictional bar generated by government knowledge of misconduct and the post-1986 development of what has become known as the government knowledge defense. The article posits that the modern government knowledge defense traces its lineage to the Ninth Circuit's seminal decision in *United States ex rel*. Hagood v. Sonoma County Water Agency. n7 Reviewing reported decisions, Part IV discusses the defense as it has developed into its modern form and attempts to articulate the defense's basic elements. Although the FCA has been applied to address fraud in the vast majority of federally funded programs, this article will focus primarily on its application to government contracts.

#### II. HISTORICAL BACKGROUND OF THE FALSE CLAIMS ACT

The False Claims Act was enacted during the Civil War as a statutory tool to combat widespread fraud found among defense contractors. n8 The Union Army reported instances of being charged multiple times for the same horse, finding "boots made of cardboard rather than leather," n9 and discovering sawdust substituted for gunpowder in ammunition crates and muskets in rifle crates. n10 Civil War contractors had billed the United States "for nonexistent or worthless goods, charged exorbitant prices for goods delivered, and generally robbed in purchasing the necessities of war." n11 In its original form, the FCA allowed private persons to initiate lawsuits n12 and provided for both criminal and civil penalties, but Congress eventually removed the FCA's criminal component and placed it elsewhere. n13

Except for brief flurries of activity associated with America's entry into war, with concomitant increases in defense spending and defense contractor fraud, the FCA was infrequently used. n14 However, during the early 1980s, federal agencies reported a steady increase in fraud investigations. The Department of Defense (DoD) reported that it conducted 2311 such investigations in 1984. n15 The following year, the DoD Inspector General "testified that 45 of the 100 largest defense contractors, including 9 of the top 10, were under investigation for multiple fraud offenses." n16 Further, the Department of Justice reported to Congress that, within the proceeding year, it had achieved convictions of four major defense companies and had indicted another. n17

The procurement fraud scandals of the early 1980s gave rise to various legislative initiatives designed to strengthen the government's ability to deal with rampant fraud within the defense industry, n18 including significant revisions to the FCA. n19 The 1986 amendments increased the maximum penalty from \$2000 to \$10,000 and provided for treble damages, n20 added "reverse false claims" n21 and anti-retaliation provisions, n22 eliminated the exclusion for

members of the armed forces, n23 clarified the scienter element n24 and the standard of proof, n25 and lengthened the statute of limitations. n26

In its current form, the FCA provides for civil liability against any person who engages in one of seven forms of misconduct. n27 The most common FCA causes of action are submitting a false claim and making or using false records to support a false claim. n28

An FCA action may be brought initially by either the United States or by an individual on behalf of the United States. n29 When suit is brought by an individual (a relator), the case is known as a qui tam. n30 "The basic idea [behind a qui tam suit] is that a private citizen with personal knowledge of such fraud may bring suit on the government's behalf in return for a cut of the proceeds should the suit prevail." n31 The United States may assume control over a qui tam lawsuit or it may decline to intervene and permit the relator to pursue the case. n32

A defendant found to have violated the FCA may be held liable for treble damages and a civil penalty of \$5500 to \$ 11,000 per false claim. n33 FCA damages "typically are liberally calculated to ensure that they 'afford the government complete indemnity for the injuries done it." n34 Additionally, recovery of penalties is not dependent upon the United States proving actual damages. n35 In successful qui tam cases, the relator is entitled to a share of the government's recovery. This share may range up to thirty percent of the amount the United States recovers, depending upon the relator's contribution to the successful resolution of the case. n36

#### III. THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE GOVERNMENT KNOWLEDGE DEFENSE

#### A. Demise of the Government Knowledge Jurisdictional Bar

Prior to 1986, government knowledge of the factual basis for a qui tam suit served as a jurisdictional bar to potential relators. n37 This bar reflected Congress's efforts during World War II to eliminate parasitic lawsuits. n38 Such lawsuits were being brought "by parties having no information of their own to contribute, but who merely plagiarized information in indictments returned to the courts, newspaper stories or congressional investigations." n39 The FCA's prior government knowledge provision had been strictly interpreted so as to "preclud[e] any qui tam suit based on information in the Government's possession, despite the source." n40 Some courts have precluded qui tam lawsuits based on information in the government's possession even when the relator was the source of that information. n41 Corrupt contractors found an unintended safe harbor. As one legal treatise noted: "Defense contractors seeking to avoid liability or governmental officials who resented qui tam actions were almost always able to find some Government official somewhere who had *some* knowledge of the fraudulent activities involved." n42

Believing that such a draconian jurisdictional bar could lead to inequitable results n43 and seeking to encourage potential relators to bring suit, n44 Congress eliminated the jurisdictional bar and instead substituted a public disclosure standard: "[A] qui tam suit will be barred only if it is based on information that was 'publicly disclosed' at various hearings, in certain types of reports, or by the media." n45 Under this standard, "[i]nformation that the government 'has,' but that was never publicly disclosed, does not bar a qui tam suit." n46

In the event of a public disclosure, the qui tam relator's action is not barred so long as the relator was the original source of the information giving rise to the lawsuit. n47 The "original source" requirement is jurisdictional. n48 The FCA defines an "original source" as "an individual who has direct and independent knowledge of the information on which the allegations are based and has voluntarily provided the information to the Government before filing an action under [the FCA] which is based on the information." n49

The prior government knowledge-based jurisdictional bar and the current government knowledge defenses are analytically distinct concepts. The former focused on the government's knowledge of the fraud to preclude the relator from bringing suit; n50 the latter focuses on the effect the government's knowledge has on the defendant's mental state in order to determine if the defendant acted knowingly. n51 Further, the earlier jurisdictional language was removed from the FCA in 1986 n52 and replaced with the public disclosure/original source language found in § 3730(e)(4). n53

Accordingly, to the extent that the possession of information forming the basis of a relator's FCA lawsuit served as a jurisdictional bar, that form of government knowledge defense no longer exists. However, "[o]nce public disclosure became the linchpin of the jurisdictional scheme, the effect of government knowledge on the viability of an FCA claim was thrown to the courts to decide." n54

#### B. A Phoenix Rises from the Ashes: The Development of the Government Knowledge Defense

In 1986, in addition to eliminating the government knowledge-based jurisdictional bar, Congress clarified the FCA's scienter element, making it clear that the United States need not prove specific intent in order to establish that the defendant acted knowingly when it submitted a false claim or statement to the United States. n55 In doing so, Congress intended to reach "the increasingly familiar 'ostrich-like' conduct of corporate officers, who had been able to insulate themselves from FCA liability for false claims submitted by unwitting subordinates." n56

By the plain terms of the FCA's statutory language, the scienter requirement is that the defendant acted knowingly for all FCA claims except those enumerated in sections 3729(a)(3), (a)(4) and (a)(5). n57 Currently, the FCA defines "knowing" and "knowingly" to "mean that a person, with respect to information -- (1) has actual knowledge of the information; (2) acts in deliberate ignorance of the truth or falsity of the information; or (3) acts in reckless disregard of the truth or falsity of the information . . . . " n58

In other words, the "defendant must 'know' that a claim or statement is false or fraudulent, that is, he must (1) have actual knowledge that it is false, (2) act in deliberate ignorance of its truth or falsity or (3) act in reckless disregard of its truth or falsity." n59 The United States, or a relator acting on its behalf, is not required to prove that the defendant acted with the specific intent to defraud. n60

#### 1. Boisjoly: A Failed First Attempt

The first reported post-1986 amendment case to address the government knowledge defense was *Boisjoly v. Morton* Thiokol, Inc. n61 In Boisjoly, an engineer working for the defendant filed a qui tam following the Challenger disaster, alleging that Morton Thiokol provided NASA with defective solid rocket motors (SRM), n62 that the defendant's role in the launch decision constituted a false claim, and that the company requested and received a bonus from NASA despite the shuttle disaster and the company's failure to meet contract specifications. n63

The court granted the defendant's motion to dismiss the first cause of action, noting that the complaint itself indicated that NASA knew of the alleged SRM defects. n64 Citing several dated cases, n65 the court pointed out that "[b]ecause FCA liability requires an element of fraud or falsity, courts have disallowed FCA claims where the Government knew, or was in possession at the time of the claim, of the facts that make the claim false." n66 The court then posited, "only if the government gets something less than or different from that which it expected can it be said to have suffered the kind of injury necessary to invoke FCA liability." n67 The court held "that if the complaint itself alleges that the government knew of those very facts or characteristics which allegedly make the claim false, no claim has been stated." n68

Further, the court determined that the remaining causes of action did not state an FCA claim. n69 The court found that the defendant had certified the safety of the SRMs only after disclosing its concerns to NASA and after being pressured by the government to submit the certification. n70 The court held that such "circumstances are simply not the kind against which the FCA is meant to protect" and "negate[] any element of falsity or fraud that might otherwise exist." n71

With respect to that portion of the opinion addressing the government knowledge defense, the court's decision has been criticized n72 and effectively overruled to the extent Boisjoly suggests that government knowledge constitutes an absolute defense. n73 In Shaw v. AAA Engineering & Drafting, Inc., the United States Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit specifically rejected the notion that government knowledge constituted an absolute defense to an FCA case. n74 Instead, the court noted that "there may still be occasions when the government's knowledge of or cooperation with a

contractor's actions is so extensive that the contractor could not as a matter of law possess the requisite state of mind to be liable under the FCA." n75 Further, as subsequent case law has shown, government knowledge may serve as a defense to the FCA's scienter element, rather than to the falsity of the claim. n76

#### 2. Hagood: The Ninth Circuit Sets the Standard

The seminal and most often cited case to address the government knowledge defense since the 1986 amendments to the FCA is *United States ex rel. Hagood v. Sonoma County Water Agency*. n77 Indeed, the *Hagood* decision has been cited with approval by several circuit courts, including the Second, n78 Sixth, n79 Seventh, n80 and Tenth, n81 by the U.S. Court of Federal Claims, n82 and by district court decisions in other circuits. n83

#### a. Hagood

In *Hagood*, a *qui tam* relator n84 brought suit alleging that the water agency had presented false cost allocation information to the United States to obtain an Army Corps of Engineers contract. n85 The district court dismissed the suit "for failure to state a claim for which relief could be granted." n86

The district court believed that Hagood's complaint was "essentially self-contradictory" because it both alleged that the water agency had committed fraud and that "'the high government officials responsible for taking the action' knew of the facts that made the complaint false." n87 Further, the district court found that Hagood failed to sufficiently plead fraudulent intent for purposes of Fed. R. Civ. P. 9(b) and that the government's knowledge of the alleged falsity made it "impossible to say that the government had suffered the kind of injury necessary to impose liability under the False Claims Act." n88 Elaborating, the district court mused, "it is difficult to see how any damages to the United States are caused by false statements when officials, with full knowledge of the falsity of the statements, proceed to take an action depriving the government of funds notwithstanding the false statements." n89

On appeal, the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit reversed and remanded. n90 The appellate court found that Hagood's complaint was not self-contradicting. n91 Reviewing the FCA's requirement that the alleged misconduct be knowing, the court noted that the scienter element required more than mere negligence or innocent mistake but did not require the government to prove specific intent to deceive. n92 In terms of intent, the United States had to establish "the knowing presentation of what is known to be false." n93

With respect to government knowledge of the falsity, the court acknowledged that such knowledge could be "highly relevant"; it could "show that the defendant did not submit its claim in deliberate ignorance or reckless disregard of the truth." n94 However, the court also posited that government knowledge did not alone provide an absolute defense--"[t]hat the relevant government officials know of the falsity is not in itself a defense." n95 In short, the court found evidence of government knowledge potentially relevant to the FCA's scienter element, but not to the issue of falsity. n96

The court left the question of whether government knowledge may preclude an award of damages unanswered. n97 However, the court pointed out that the United States need not prove damages in order to recover penalties and costs, suggesting that even if government knowledge provided a causal defense against an award of damages, such knowledge did not insulate the defendant from the imposition of penalties. n98

Finally, the court rejected an estoppel defense. Reiterating the well-established law that "estoppel will not lie against the United States 'on the same terms as any other litigant," under the facts alleged in this case, the court posited that "[t]he defendant's 'inability to retain money that it should never have received in the first place' is not the kind of detrimental reliance that justifies estoppel against the government." n99 Finding that Hagood's allegations constituted a valid cause of action, the court further admonished: "Protection of the public fisc requires that those who seek public funds act with scrupulous regard for the requirements of the law . . . . [T]hose who deal with the Government are expected to know the law and may not rely on the conduct of Government agents contrary to law." n100

b. Hagood's Progenies: Wang & Butler

The Ninth Circuit's decisions in *Wang* and *Butler* amplified its original decision in *Hagood*. In *Wang ex rel*. *United States v. FMC Corp.*, n101 a qui tam relator, who had alleged that FMC defrauded the United States on four defense contracts including a contract involving a lightweight howitzer, unsuccessfully appealed the district court's grant of summary judgment to FMC. n102 In support of his claim, Wang alleged "that FMC's engineering work was of 'low quality,' and that the design for the lightweight howitzer was 'faulty.'" n103 Wang's sole piece of evidence to support his allegations concerning the howitzer contract was an FMC "lessons learned" memorandum written after the contract had been cancelled. n104 Significantly, "all of the issues discussed in the memorandum were first raised and considered in meetings with the Army." n105

Analyzing the FCA's scienter requirement, the court noted that the Army knew about "FMC's mistakes and limitations, and that FMC was open with the government about them . . . . " n106 Accordingly, the court opined that Wang's evidence was insufficient to survive summary judgment, the memorandum suggesting only "that while FMC might have been groping for solutions, it was not cheating the government in the effort." n107 To be knowingly false, there must be something more than a mere scientific untruth, there must be "a lie." n108

Following *Wang*, the Ninth Circuit again addressed the issue of government knowledge in an FCA case. In *United States ex rel. Butler v. Hughes Helicopter*, *Inc.*, n109 a qui tam relator, who alleged that the defendant had made false statements and submitted false claims "related to several aspects of the testing of the avionics and navigation subsystems" of the Apache attack helicopter, appealed an adverse directed verdict. n110 At trial, the defendant argued, in relevant part, that Army technical representatives approved deviations from the required specifications and that Army technical representatives were also present during relevant equipment tests. n111 As part of its findings of fact, the district court noted "the Army's knowledge of and access to the modifications in the testing of the subsystems . . . ." n112 Further, the district court's decision relied on its conclusion that the Army and defendant enjoyed a "pattern of cooperation" in which "information flowed freely," and "all information upon which [Butler] bases his case was not only available to the Army, but in the Army's possession." n113

On appeal, Butler did not challenge the district court's findings of fact, but instead argued "that the *wrong* Army personnel knew, that is, that only a contracting officer had the power to modify a government contract to allow the deviations the Army allowed in the testing." n114 The court first noted that government knowledge is not an automatic defense to an FCA action and that courts must evaluate the significance of such knowledge on a case-by-case basis. n115 Relying on *Hagood* and *Wang*, the court then determined that the scope of its review focused on the evidence "that [the defendant] and the Army had so completely cooperated and shared all information during the testing that [the defendant] did not 'knowingly' submit false claims," in which case the court would affirm the directed verdict. n116 With respect to the government knowledge defense, the court did not directly confront Butler's argument, but instead found that test changes were discussed between the defendant and Army representatives, that Army technical representatives knew of and approved these changes, and, accordingly, that the allegedly noncompliant test could not have been a "knowingly false statement[]." n117

#### IV. THE CURRENT STATE OF THE DEFENSE

The vast majority of cases have determined that government knowledge is not an absolute defense to an FCA action. n118 In other words, the mere fact that government officials know of the falsity does not, standing alone, constitute a defense. n119 While relevant, "the Government's knowledge is . . . not necessarily dispositive . . . ." n120 The significance of the government's knowledge is determined on a case by case basis. n121

Since the 1986 FCA amendments, several courts have addressed the government knowledge defense, providing an emerging, but sufficiently well defined, body of law to map out the parameters of this defense. In order for government knowledge of defendant's alleged wrongdoing to serve as a defense to an FCA action, the defendant must satisfy several elements. First, the defendant can use the government's knowledge of his conduct to defend against the FCA's scienter

element to establish that he did not knowingly commit a violation of the FCA. Second, the defendant must establish that the government had knowledge of the specific conduct that forms the basis of the FCA claim. Third, the defendant cannot merely show that someone in the government had knowledge of the challenged conduct; rather, the defendant must prove that a relevant government official was aware of the challenged conduct and approved it, either explicitly or tacitly. Finally, the defendant must also prove that the relevant government official had knowledge of the specific conduct at issue before the defendant presented a claim.

#### A. Defendant's Scienter Was Affected

The courts have applied the government knowledge defense to the scienter element of the FCA. n122 As originally explained by the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit in Hagood, the requisite intent in an FCA case is "the knowing presentation of what is known to be false." n123 Accordingly, "[t]hat the relevant government officials know of the falsity is not in itself a defense." n124 "[T]he knowledge possessed by officials of the United States may be ... relevant.... [to] show that the defendant did not submit its claim in deliberate ignorance or reckless disregard of the truth." n125 The focus of the defense is not on what the government knew; rather, the defense focuses on whether the defendant acted knowingly, examining the effect of the government's knowledge on the defendant.

Interpreting the FCA to provide an absolute defense based on government knowledge of the specific falsity at issue, without a concomitant effect on the defendant's mental state, would lead to absurd results. To illustrate, assume that a contractor knowingly submits a false claim--indeed does so with the specific intent to defraud the United States--but a federal employee learns of the falsity unbeknownst to the corrupt contractor, either before or after the claim is submitted. Is the claim any less false, or was it submitted any less knowingly, merely because someone in the government became aware of it? The answer, of course, is no. n126 Nor does the answer change if the federal employee who discovers the falsity is the cognizant contracting officer. n127 The contractor in this scenario is still attempting to defraud the United States, and that fact remains unchanged even when the contracting officer or some other relevant acquisition official discovers the misconduct.

In Shaw v. AAA Engineering & Drafting Inc., n128 the United States Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit rejected a government knowledge defense based on knowledge of misconduct provided to the government by the qui tam relator, who had formerly been employed by the defendant. While still an employee of the defendant, Shaw reported certain environmental misconduct to the government's Quality Assurance Evaluator, who in turn relayed the information to the contracting officer. n129 In rejecting the defense the court posited:

Assuming some level of government knowledge would negate the intent requirement under the FCA as a matter of law, the level of government knowledge in the present case does not do so. It was the plaintiff, Shaw, and not the individual defendants or other AAA employees, who told the government about the failure to practice silver recovery. n130

The unsuitability of government knowledge as an absolute defense is highlighted further when the knowledgeable federal employee is not merely a passive recipient of information, but instead is a participant in a scheme to defraud the United States. n131 Clearly, the defendant should not escape liability merely because it found a willing participant--a coconspirator--within the government.

Additionally, an FCA defendant should not benefit if someone from the government learns of the falsity and simply does nothing about it. The Seventh Circuit has held that mere governmental acquiescence is insufficient to sustain a government knowledge defense. n132 The government must both know of, and approve, the particular claim before it is submitted. n133 The opinions of other circuit courts appear to have adopted a similar standard. n134 Unless that person is someone with the requisite level of authority and approves or otherwise indicates to the defendant that its conduct is permissible, then the defendant's scienter remains unaffected. Additionally, "mere acquiescence would preclude FCA liability any time a government employee and a defendant were in cahoots." n135

Even though the government has not affirmatively approved a particular claim or its underlying factual basis when such is in contention, apparently some courts have imposed a less demanding standard that permits the defense when government knowledge is coupled with acquiescence. n136 Such a standard would seem defensible so long as the defendant could establish that the particular facts and circumstances surrounding the government's receipt of relevant information, and subsequent acquiescence, reasonably affected the defendant's mental state. In those jurisdictions adopting such a standard, the critical focus would remain on the defendant's scienter, that is, did the defendant knowingly submit a false claim.

#### B. Specific Falsity at Issue

In order for government knowledge to serve as a defense, the United States must also have known of the specific falsity at issue. Both the Fifth and Seventh Circuits have posited: "[I]f the government knows and approves of *the particulars* of a claim for payment before that claim is presented, the presenter cannot be said to have knowingly presented a fraudulent or false claim." n137 Other courts applying the defense have articulated a similar standard n138 or have noted that the specific falsity at issue was known to the government. n139 Logically, this element should be met if the defendant has fully disclosed all relevant facts leading up to the presentment of a claim, or followed the government's specific instructions when presenting the claim, such that it is apparent that the government knew and approved of the defendant's course of action. n140 Under this standard, it is insufficient that the Government becomes aware of contractual or programmatic irregularities not amounting to fraud or becomes aware of other, unrelated fraud.

#### C. Relevant Government Officials

Merely establishing that someone within the government possessed knowledge of the defendant's wrongdoing does not, by itself, satisfy this element of the government knowledge defense. Albeit few cases have squarely addressed the issue, several opinions have suggested a limitation on the defense, requiring that the knowledge be possessed by relevant government employees. n141 Other court opinions applying the defense, but not addressing the relevant pool of government officials, have noted complete or extensive knowledge by the government of the alleged misconduct, n142 suggesting that this limited body of relevant or responsible officials also had the requisite knowledge. If such a limitation did not exist, then a defendant could escape liability simply by finding someone within the government who possessed some knowledge of the challenged conduct, regardless of that person's authority or relationship with the underlying program or activity.

The United States Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit was one of the few courts to directly address this issue in the federal procurement context. In *United States ex rel. Stone v. Rockwell International Corp.*, n143 the Tenth Circuit reviewed a challenge to the district court's jury instruction, "charging the jury that they could consider the knowledge of all 'government employees with authority to act under the contract." n144 Noting that the instruction had not limited the jury's consideration of knowledge possessed only by the government's contracting officers, but rather that such authority extended to "a broader range of individuals," the appellate court held that the district court's instruction was not in error. n145

Further, the court rejected the appellant's argument that upholding the lower court's jury instruction would conflict with *United States ex rel*. *Butler v*. *Hughes Helicopters*, *Inc*. n146 The Tenth Circuit noted that the court in *Butler* had rejected the position that only a contracting officer's knowledge was relevant for purposes of determining whether a defendant had acted knowingly. n147 Instead, the Ninth Circuit had included "technical representatives" within the pool of relevant government officials. n148

As the *Stone* decision correctly indicates, for purposes of this defense, the legal significance of the government's knowledge in the federal procurement context is linked to the authority of the employee in possession of the information. That authority does not reside with all employees merely because they are somehow associated with the procurement; nor, on the other hand, is such authority embodied solely in the contracting officer. For purposes of this defense, the legally relevant authority extends beyond that possessed by contracting officers to other procurement

officials "with authority to act under the contract." n149

Unfortunately the courts have failed to provide a clear standard for determining relevant officials—those with the requisite level of authority—specifically for purposes of the government knowledge defense. However, although the two bodies of law are not synonymous, established principles of general federal procurement law addressing the authority of federal acquisition officials to bind the government offer guidance for FCA cases. Under these legal principles, application of the government knowledge defense should be limited to knowledge possessed by government employees acting with actual contractual authority, depending upon the facts of the case. n150

#### 1. Actual Authority, Express or Implied, Is Required

As a general rule, the United States is bound only by the conduct of its employees acting with actual authority. n151 Similarly, as a general rule in the procurement context, "[o]nly persons with contracting authority can bind the Government." n152 In the procurement context, cognizant contracting officers have actual authority to bind the government. n153 Once they receive the requisite grant of authority, contracting officers may "enter into, administer, or terminate contracts and make related determinations and findings." n154 Further, contracting officers possess authority "to execute contract modifications on behalf of the Government." n155

Limits on the contracting officer's authority are provided to that official in writing and such limitations are known, or readily subject to determination, by contractors and other federal officials. Contracting officers are appointed in writing with a Certificate of Appointment (called a "warrant") containing any limitations on their authority. n156 Information concerning the limitations on the contracting officer's authority is readily available to the public. n157 Indeed, some contracting officers even post their warrants on their office wall for contractor review. n158

Contracting officers may delegate portions of their authority to other government employees. n159 Accordingly, with respect to federal procurements, the "relevant" pool of actors for the government knowledge defense should normally include the contracting officer overseeing the particular contract, who usually possesses the "authority to enter into, administer, or terminate contracts and make related determinations and findings." n160 Also, the relevant pool could include those subordinate contracting officials whom the contracting officer expressly delegates actual authority to perform various contracting functions. n161 Typical government officials falling into this category may include the Administrative Contracting Officer (ACO), n162 Terminating Contracting Officer (TCO), n163 and certain "formally designated representatives who act on behalf of the Government during contract administration." n164 Such representatives could include the "contracting officer representative (COR), contracting officer technical representative (COTR), Government Technical Representative (GTR), or Government Technical Evaluator (GTE)." n165

For contractors, authority issues may become confusing in federal procurements because they frequently deal with government employees with varying levels of authority, who may possess titles or exercise related duties that suggest a greater level of authority. n166 As one treatise notes:

Within contracting offices, personnel with official-sounding titles such as contract specialist, negotiators, and administrators work for contracting officers and handle the day-to-day contracting activity of the government, but such personnel generally do not have authority to order additional work or to commit the government by virtue of their position. Contractors are expected to recognize this lack of authority. n167

In order to provide relief to contractors, various courts and boards have relied on the court-created theory of "implied" actual authority to bind the United States. n168 Accordingly, in some limited circumstances, "[t]he authority of a Government official . . . may . . . arise from 'implied actual authority." n169 A government employee may be found to possess the "implied authority to bind the Government in contract 'when such authority is considered to be an integral part of the duties assigned to [the] government employee." n170 In this context "integral" means "essential or 'necessary to form a whole." n171 However, implied authority only exists when *some* authority has been properly

delegated to a government employee. n172 A government procurement official lacking any actual authority, cannot be deemed to possess implied actual authority. n173

Significantly, government employees, including procurement officials, lack the authority to waive fraudulent conduct. n174 Accordingly, the FCA is violated when a contractor submits a false claim even when the contractor informs the government of the claim's falsity before submission. n175 Further, once false claims are received, a contracting officer may not modify the contract, or take other action, to waive past false claims. n176

The Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) also contains express limitations on contracting officer authority when a claim is suspected to be false or tainted by fraud. Pursuant to FAR 33.210(b), the contracting officer has no authority to settle, compromise, pay or adjust "any claim involving fraud." n177 Similarly, section 605(a) of the Contract Disputes Act removes any authority from the head of an agency "to settle, compromise, pay, or otherwise adjust any claim involving fraud." n178 This statutory restriction on agency heads extends downward to subordinate agency procurement officials. n179

However, the fact that a contracting officer, or other authorized procurement official, resolved a bona fide pre-claim dispute that later forms the basis of an FCA lawsuit may give rise to a triable issue. n180 Although they may not waive false or fraudulent claims, contracting officers may resolve legitimate contract disputes. n181 Indeed, as a matter of policy, the federal government encourages resolution of contractual disputes at the contracting officer level. n182 As one court explained this distinction: "[T]he fact of a settlement, while not dispositive, is relevant insofar as it supports an inference that the defendant was involved in a contract dispute with the government, not that a government officer knew of a fraud and nonetheless decided to settle." n183

#### 2. Knowledge and the Duty to Inquire

A second, significant body of law exists placing a duty of inquiry on a contractor when dealing with the United States. This duty is rooted in the unique status of the United States as a sovereign and draws upon the legal principle that persons are charged with constructive knowledge of published laws and regulations. n184 As the United States Supreme Court has admonished: "Men must turn square corners when they deal with the Government . . . . " n185

Within the realm of federal procurement law, courts have placed the burden on contractors to ensure that they are "dealing with a Government employee with contracting authority." n186 Further, contractors will be held responsible for knowing the limitations on the authority of government contracting officials when such limitations were contained in published laws or regulations. n187 Additionally, when the limitations on delegations of authority are expressly made known to contractors by including authority limitations as contract clauses, contractors will be held to those limitations. n188

Various courts have applied the "square corners" rule to the FCA. n189 Further, the legislative history from the 1986 amendments to the FCA reflects a congressional desire that a duty of inquiry be placed on contractors who deal with the government. n190 Furthermore, the FCA's legislative history indicates that the Act's "knowing" definition reflects, at least in part, the constructive knowledge standard. n191 The incorporation of a constructive knowledge standard into the FCA was designed to place at least a limited duty of inquiry upon the defendant in order "to reach what has become known as the 'ostrich' type situation where an individual has 'buried his head in the sand' and failed to make simple inquiries that would alert him that false claims are being submitted." n192

Given the existence of this body of law, with its application to both federal procurement law concerning the authority of federal acquisition officials and to the FCA, any government knowledge defense must also be scrutinized to determine if the defendant contractor knew, or should have known, of the authority limitations on the government official alleged to possess knowledge of contractor wrongdoing. Clearly, if the FCA defendant has actual knowledge of such limitations because of contractual clauses articulating the authority of the government's officials, then federal employees falling outside the scope of those clauses should not constitute relevant officials for purposes of this defense.

Similarly, if contractual authority limitations are contained in publicly available statutes or regulations (for example, FAR), then the contractor should be charged with the constructive knowledge of those limitations and the defense should fail. Finally, some form of limited duty of inquiry should be placed on the contractor to determine the authority of the government official with whom the contractor is providing information.

#### 3. Timing Does Matter

The falsity of the claim is measured at the time it is submitted to the United States. n193 Accordingly, a necessary prerequisite to any defense based on government knowledge of the falsity is that the relevant government officials knew of the challenged conduct before the false statement or claim was presented to the United States. Several courts have recognized this limitation on a government knowledge defense. n194 Although not directly addressing the issue, other cases applying the government knowledge defense contain fact patterns in which the government was aware of the challenged conduct before a claim was presented. n195

Such a temporal requirement is consistent with the basic premise underlying the defense--that the contractor did not knowingly engage in misconduct because it believed the government knew of its conduct and approved, either explicitly or tacitly. Also, this prerequisite to the government knowledge defense is consistent with the authority limitations placed on the contracting officer, as well as any other potentially relevant government official that a contractor may reasonably expect to deal with during a federal procurement. As noted earlier, government procurement officials cannot waive or ratify false or fraudulent claims. n196

The following FCA case illustrates this point. In United States v. National Wholesalers, n197 the defendant was awarded a contract to provide 6000 proprietary Delco-Remy vehicle regulators to the Army. n198 The bid proposal permitted either Delco-Remy regulators or "equals," but National Wholesalers offered to provide the actual Delco-Remy regulators, and the contract was awarded on that basis. n199 Unable to provide conforming Delco-Remy regulators, the defendant manufactured its own regulators--which the district found to be equal to the brand regulators--but then printed and affixed false Delco-Remy labels to the regulators. n200

Unaware of the mislabeling, the Army accepted seventeen shipments of the mislabeled parts, for a total of 4086 regulators. n201 Additionally, the contractor submitted seventeen invoices for payment. n202 Upon discovering the contractor's misconduct, the Army issued a "stop order" on future deliveries and tested the manufactured regulators. n203 Finding the regulators satisfactory, the Army's Contracting Officer accepted them as "equal" to the Delco-Remy regulators, and the contractor furnished the remaining regulators. n204

Subsequently, the United States Attorneys Office filed suit under the False Claims Act, based on the seventeen invoices submitted prior to the contracting officer having learned of the mislabeling. n205 The district court found for the defendants, determining in part that the regulators were "equals" and that the contracting officer had the authority to resolve contract disputes, which he had done here. n206

On appeal, the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit reversed. The court determined that the time to test the falsity of a claim is the date when it is submitted. n207 Accordingly, "every one of the invoices prior to [when the contracting officer learned of the mislabeling] was false when made." n208 Further, although the contracting officer has the authority to modify a contract, a retroactive modification under such circumstances was "void as against public policy." n209 The court continued: "In such palming off as we have here we do not believe that the Congress ever intended that contracting officers should have the power to vitiate the False Claims statute." n210

#### V. CONCLUSION

As one federal court has correctly noted, the government knowledge defense is "inaptly-named." n211 The fact that someone in the government possessed knowledge of the misconduct that forms the basis of a False Claims Act lawsuit, by itself, does not constitute a legal defense. Depending upon the circumstances, government knowledge may be highly relevant evidence to negate the FCA defendant's scienter. In other words, government knowledge may

establish that the defendant did not act knowingly, that it did not act with actual knowledge, in deliberate ignorance, or with reckless disregard.

The modern-day government knowledge defense developed slowly in the wake of the 1986 amendments to the False Claims Act. Beginning with the seminal case of *United States ex rel. Hagood v. Sonoma County Water Agency*, n212 the courts have gradually defined the defense's contours and criteria. The vast majority of cases have held that government knowledge may serve as a defense to the FCA's knowing scienter element. Further, the courts require that a relevant government official possess knowledge of the specific falsity at issue before the defendant presents a claim and approve of that conduct. Although not fully mature, the government knowledge defense is sufficiently well developed to provide courts and practitioners with solid guideposts for applying it in FCA litigation.

#### **Legal Topics:**

For related research and practice materials, see the following legal topics:
GovernmentsState & Territorial GovernmentsClaims By & AgainstLabor & Employment LawEmployer LiabilityFalse Claims ActCoverage & DefinitionsJurisdictional BarLabor & Employment LawEmployer LiabilityFalse Claims ActCoverage & DefinitionsQui Tam Actions

#### **FOOTNOTES:**

n1 31 U.S.C. §§ 3729-3733 (2000).

n2 United States *ex rel*. Roby v. Boeing Co., 302 F.3d 637, 641 (6th Cir. 2002) ("The FCA has since become the primary means by which the Government combats and deters fraud."); Ron R. Hutchinson, *The Government's Audit and Investigative Powers over Commercial Item Contracts and Subcontracts*, 27 PUB. CONT. L.J. 263, 286 (1998) ("The Civil False Claims Act is the Government's primary vehicle for pursuing civil fraud . . . .").

n3 JOHN T. BOESE, CIVIL FALSE CLAIMS AND QUI TAM ACTIONS 1-3 (Supp. 1999) ("combating fraud in virtually every program involving federal funds").

n4 Press Release, U.S. Dep't of Justice, Justice Department Recovers \$ 2 Billion for Fraud Against the Government in FY 2007; More Than \$ 20 Billion Since 1986 (Nov. 1, 2007), http://www.usdoj.gov/opa/pr/2007/November/07\_civ\_873.html.

n5 Id.

n6 See, e.g., United States v. Cushman & Wakefield, Inc., 275 F. Supp. 2d 763, 768-74 (N.D. Tex. 2002) (addressing several defenses).

n7 929 F.2d 1416 (9th Cir. 1991).

n8 SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE, FALSE CLAIMS AMENDMENTS ACT OF 1986, S. REP. NO. 99-345, at 8 (1986), as reprinted in 1986 U.S.C.C.A.N. 5266, 5273 ("The False Claims Act was adopted in 1863 and signed into law by President Abraham Lincoln in order to combat rampant fraud in Civil War defense contracts."); see also United States ex rel. Wilkins v. N. Am. Constr. Corp., 173 F. Supp. 2d 601, 619 (S.D. Tex. 2001) ("The False Claims Act is a statutory cause of action intended from its inception to combat fraud against the government.").

n9 JAMES B. HELMER, JR., ANN LUGBILL, & ROBERT C. NEFF, JR., FALSE CLAIMS ACT: WHISTLEBLOWER LITIGATION \$2-4, at Inside America's Biggest Defense Scandal 28 (2d ed. 1999).

n10 Id.; ANDY PASZTOR, WHEN THE PENTAGON WAS FOR SALE 11 (1995).

n11 United States v. McNinch, 356 U.S. 595, 599 (1958).

n12 S. REP. NO. 99-345, at 10 ("The original False Claims Act also contained a provision allowing private persons, or 'relators,' to bring suit under the act.").

n13 BOESE, supra note 3, at 1-10 n.27. False claims are now prosecuted criminally pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 287. Id.

n14 See John P. Robertson, The False Claims Act, 26 ARIZ. ST. L.J. 899, 901 (1994) ("[T]he Act lay essentially dormant until World War II broke out and fraud on the government by defense contractors increased."); see BOESE, supra note 3, at 1-11 ("There are few reported [FCA] decisions prior to 1930."); Id. at 1-14 ("The dramatic increases in government spending during and after World War II triggered an upsurge in the number of FCA cases brought by the Government; the number of such cases rose again during the military buildup of the Vietnam War . . . . ").

n15 S. REP. NO. 99-345, at 2 ("up 30 percent from 1982"). The Department of Health and Human Services also reported a significant increase in entitlement program fraud. *Id*.

n16 Id.

n17 Id. at 2-3.

n18 In 1986, Congress also passed the Anti-Kickback Act, 41 U.S.C. §§ 51-58 (2000), a prohibited employment statute, 10 U.S.C. § 2408 (2006), and the Program Fraud Civil Remedies Act, 31 U.S.C. §§ 3801-3812 (2000). See Vt. Agency of Natural Res. v. United States ex rel. Stevens, 529 U.S. 765, 786 n.17 (2000) ("PFCRA was designed to operate in tandem with the FCA.... [and was] enacted at virtually the same time as the FCA was amended in 1986 . . . its scope is virtually identical to that of the FCA."). For a discussion of the prohibited employment statute, see generally Michael J. Davidson, 10 U.S.C. § 2408: An Unused Weapon in the Procurement Fraud Wars, 26 PUB. CONT. L.J. 181 (1997).

Additionally, in 1986 the FBI initiated a major investigation into defense procurement fraud, known as Operation Ill Wind. Dick Thornburgh, Foreword, Sixth Survey of White Collar Crime, 28 AM. CRIM. L. REV. 383, 385-86 (1991). By April 1991, the government had achieved convictions of twenty-seven of the largest defense contractors for defrauding the United States. Id. at 386. Similar investigative efforts by the Defense Criminal Investigative Service generated an increase in procurement fraud-related convictions, "with 283 convictions in 1990 alone." Id.

n19 See S. REP. NO. 99-345, at 2.

n20 Id. at 17. The earlier version of the FCA provided for double damages. Id.

n21 Id. at 18; see 31 U.S.C. § 3729(a)(7). A reverse false claim is a claim "to avoid a payment to the government." S. REP. NO. 99-345, at 18.

n22 Id. at 13 ("afforded protection from retaliation for his actions"); see also 31 U.S.C. § 3730(h).

n23 S. REP. NO. 99-345, at 18. The military exclusion, which had existed since 1863, was removed because Congress believed "that military code remedies [were] inadequate to ensure full recoveries for fraudulent acts by servicepersons and such persons should therefore not be exempt from False Claims Act coverage." Id. at 15.

n24 Id. at 20-21; see also BOESE, supra note 3, at 1-16 ("[T]he 1986 Amendments resolved this dispute [concerning the meaning of the statutory requirement that the person act knowingly] by explicitly eliminating the need to prove specific intent to defraud.").

n25 S. REP. NO. 99-345, at 7. Previously, some courts "required that the United States prove a violation [of the FCA] by clear and convincing, or even clear, unequivocal and convincing evidence . . . . " Id. In 1986, Congress clarified the standard of proof as being a preponderance of the evidence. Id. at 13, 30-31. See also 31 U.S.C. §

3731(c) ("In any action brought under section 3730, the United States shall be required to prove all essential elements of the cause of action, including damages, by a preponderance of the evidence.").

n26 S. REP. NO. 99-345, at 8 ("[T]he subcommittee added a modification of the statute of limitations to permit the Government to bring an action within 6 years of when the false claim is submitted (current standard) or within 3 years of when the Government learned of a violation, whichever is later."); see also 31 U.S.C. § 3731(b).

n27 31 U.S.C. § 3729(a)(1-7).

n28 See generally id. § 3729(a)(1), (2).

n29 31 U.S.C. § 3730(a), (b).

n30 Vt. Agency of Natural Res. v. United States ex rel. Stevens, 529 U.S. 765, 768 (2000). "Qui tam is short for the Latin phrase qui tam pro domino rege quam pro se ipso in hac parte sequitur, which means 'who pursues this action on our Lord the King's behalf as well as his own." Id. n.1. However, "[i]n practice, the phrase means 'an action under a statute that allows a private person to sue for a penalty, part of which the government or some specified public institution will receive." United States v. Kitsap Physicians Servs., 314 F.3d 995, 997 n.1 (9th Cir. 2002) (quoting Bryan Garner, A DICTIONARY OF MODERN LEGAL USAGE 728 (2d Ed. 1995)).

n31 United States ex rel. Lamers v. City of Green Bay, 168 F.3d 1013, 1016 (7th Cir. 1999).

n32 Vt. Agency of Natural Res., 529 U.S. at 769. Under either scenario, the relator normally receives a share of the government's recovery. *Id.* at 769-70; 31 U.S.C. § 3730(d) (2000).

n33 31 U.S.C. § 3729(a); 28 C.F.R. § 85.3(9) (2008).

n34 United States ex rel. Compton v. Midwest Specialties, Inc., 142 F.3d 296, 304 (6th Cir. 1998) (quoting United States ex rel. Marcus v. Hess, 317 U.S. 537, 549 (1943)).

n35 See Kitsap Physicians Servs., 314 F.3d at 1002; Varljen v. Cleveland Gear Co., 250 F.3d 426, 429 (6th Cir. 2001) ("[R]ecovery under the FCA is not dependent upon the government's sustaining monetary damages."); United States ex rel. Bettis v. Odebrecht Contractor of Cal., Inc., 297 F. Supp. 2d 272, 278 (D.D.C. 2004) ("even

if the government has suffered no loss").

n36 31 U.S.C. § 3730(d). Further, the court may award reasonable expenses, attorney's fees and costs to the relator to be paid by the defendant. Id.

n37 See United States ex rel. Becker v. Westinghouse Savannah River Co., 305 F.3d 284, 289 n.5 (4th Cir. 2002); United States ex rel. Grynberg v. Praxair, Inc., 207 F. Supp. 2d 1163, 1181 (D. Colo. 2001) (citing 31 U.S.C. § 3730(b)(4) (1982) (current version at 31 U.S.C. § 3730(b)(4) (2000)). In contrast, "[t]he government itself, of course, could still bring suit for such a violation; only private parties were barred from seeking recovery." United States ex rel. Cantekin v. Univ. of Pittsburgh, 192 F.3d 402, 408 (3d Cir. 1999).

n38 HELMER, LUGBILL & NEFF, supra note 9, § 2-5, at 36, 39, § 2-6(b)(2), at 46; see also SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE, FALSE CLAIMS AMENDMENTS ACT OF 1986, S. REP. NO. 99-345, at 8 (1986), as reprinted in 1986 U.S.C.C.A.N. 5266, 5273.

n39 CLAIRE M. SYLVIA, THE FALSE CLAIMS ACT: FRAUD AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT § 27, at 47 (Andrea G. Nadel et al. eds.) (2004) (quoting United States v. Burmah Oil Co., 558 F.2d 43, 46 n.1 (2d Cir. 1977).

n40 S. REP. NO. 99-345, at 12; see also Wang Chen-Cheng ex rel. United States v. FMC Corp., 975 F.2d 1412, 1419 (9th Cir. 1992) ("Courts read the amended Act as prohibiting all qui tam suits where the government already possessed the information, even where the relator had independently uncovered fraud against the government and the government knew of that fraud only because the relator had been decent enough to tell the government about it.").

n41 SYLVIA, supra note 39, §29, at 53.

n42 HELMER, LUGBILL & NEFF, supra note 9, §2-5, at 40.

n43 S. REP. NO. 99-345, at 12-13.

n44 *Id*. at 8 ("encourage assistance from the private citizenry").

n45 United States ex rel. Cantekin v. Univ. of Pittsburgh, 192 F.3d 402, 408 (3d Cir. 1999) (citing 31 U.S.C. §

3730(e)(4)(A) (1994)). The public disclosure must have occurred "in a criminal, civil, or administrative hearing, in a congressional, administrative, or Government Accounting Office report, hearing, audit, or investigation, or from the news media . . . . " 31 U.S.C. § 3730(e)(4)(A).

n46 Cantekin, 192 F.3d at 408.

n47 Id. at 408-09; see also 31 U.S.C. § 3730(e)(4)(A) ("unless . . . the person bringing the action is an original source of the information").

n48 Rockwell Int'l Corp. v. United States, 549 U.S. 457, , 127 S. Ct. 1397, 1406 (2007).

n49 31 U.S.C. § 3730(e)(4)(B).

n50 See Wang Chen-Cheng ex rel. United States v. FMC Corp., 975 F.2d 1412, 1419 (9th Cir. 1992); SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE, FALSE CLAIMS AMENDMENTS ACT OF 1986, S. REP. NO. 99-345, at 12 (1986), as reprinted in 1986 U.S.C.C.A.N. 5266, 5277 ("That jurisdictional bar . . . has been applied only to private qui tam suits, and not those suits taken over by the Government.").

n51 United States ex rel. Hagood v. Sonoma County Water Agency, 929 F.2d 1416, 1421 (9th Cir. 1991); see also United States v. Southland Mgmt. Corp., 326 F.3d 669, 682 n.9 (5th Cir. 2003) (en banc) (Jones, J., concurring) ("In principle, it would seem that the government's knowledge of a false claim would not be an effective defense if the person making the false statement did not know that the government knew it was false . . .."); Shaw v. AAA Eng'g & Drafting, Inc., 213 F.3d 519 (10th Cir. 2000).

n52 Shaw, 213 F.3d at 534 ("language was removed in 1986"); Hagood, 929 F.2d at 1420 ("language disappeared from the statute with the 1986 amendments").

n53 31 U.S.C. § 3730(e)(4).

n54 United States ex rel. Lamers v. City of Green Bay, 998 F. Supp. 971, 988 (E.D. Wis. 1998) (citing United States ex rel. Butler v. Hughes Helicopters, Inc., 71 F.3d 321, 326 (9th Cir. 1995), aff d 168 F.3d 1013 (7th Cir. 1999)); see also Butler, 71 F.3d at 326 ("The 1986 amendments eliminated this language, however, leaving open what would be the effect of government knowledge of the facts underlying a suit.").

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n55 See S. REP. NO. 99-345, at 7.

n56 Lamers, 998 F. Supp. at 987 (citing S. REP. NO. 99-345, at 7); see also S. REP. NO. 99-345, at 7 ("Currently, in judicial districts observing an 'actual knowledge' standard, the Government is unable to hold responsible those corporate officers who insulate themselves from knowledge of false claims submitted by lower-level subordinates."); id. at 21 ("[T]he constructive knowledge definition attempts to reach what has become known as the 'ostrich' type situation where an individual has 'buried his head in the sand' and failed to make simple inquiries which would alert him that false claims are being submitted."); United States v. NHC Healthcare Corp., 115 F. Supp. 2d 1149, 1153 (W.D. Mo. 2000) ("The purpose of this particular definition of 'knowing' was to avoid the claimants who bury their heads in the sand and purposefully submit in ignorance a false claim.").

n57 31 U.S.C. § 3729(a)(3) (conspiring to defraud); id. § 3729(a)(4) (intending to defraud by delivering less property than in the defendant's possession); id. § 3729(a)(5) (intending to defraud by making or delivering a receipt certifying receipt of property "without completely knowing that the information on the receipt is true"); see also HELMER, LUGBILL & NEFF., supra note 9, § 3-15, at 110 ("With the exception of claims brought under 31 U.S.C. § 3729(a)(3), (a)(4), and (a)(5), the [FCA's] only 'scienter' requirement is a 'knowing violation."').

n58 31 U.S.C. § 3729(b).

n59 United States ex rel. Humphrey v. Franklin-Williamson Human Servs., Inc., 189 F. Supp. 2d 862, 867 (S.D. Ill. 2002); see also United States v. Inc. Vill. of Island Park, 888 F. Supp. 419, 439 (E.D.N.Y. 1995) ("[T]he government need not prove an intent to defraud, but only that the violations were committed knowingly, that is with willful blindness to the existence of a fact or reckless disregard for the truth." (citing United States v. Foster Wheeler Corp., 316 F. Supp. 963, 967 (S.D.N.Y. 1970))).

n60 31 U.S.C. § 3729(b); see also United States ex rel. Quirk v. Madonna Towers, Inc., 278 F.3d 765, 767 (8th Cir. 2002) ("No proof of specific intent to defraud the government is required." (citing 31 U.S.C. § 3729(b))).

n61 706 F. Supp. 795 (D. Utah 1988).

n62 Id. at 799. A government commission that investigated the Challenger disaster attributed the cause of the explosion to a gas leak in a joint's seal, which was located between two portions of one of the solid rocket motors. Id. at 798. The plaintiff's employment for Morton Thiokol involved work with the solid rocket motors. Id. at 799.

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n63 *Id.* at 803. In addition to his *qui tam*, Boisjoly pursued unsuccessfully several statutory and common law claims. *Id.* at 799-807.

n64 Id. at 809-10.

n65 *Id.* at 809 (citing United States v. Fox Lake State Bank, 366 F.2d 962, 965 (7th Cir. 1966); Woodbury v. United States, 232 F. Supp. 49, 54-55 (D. Or. 1964), *modified*, 359 F.2d 370 (9th Cir. 1966); and United States v. Schmidt, 204 F. Supp. 540 (E.D. Wis. 1962)). Although proceeding under different legal theories, the courts relied on the government's knowledge to rule in favor of the FCA defendants. *Fox Lake State Bank*, 366 F.3d at 965-66 (applying an estoppel theory); *Woodbury*, 232 F. Supp. at 54-55 (finding no intent to defraud); *Schmidt*, 204 F. Supp. at 544 (finding no intent to commit fraud or violate the FCA). Although these pre-1986 cases are of limited applicability because of the changes in the law, they and others like them provided an equitable rationale similar to that reflected in the modern government knowledge defense. *See* United States *ex rel*. Lamers v. City of Green Bay, 998 F. Supp. 971, 988 (E.D. Wis. 1998) ("[T]he equitable rationale behind the defense has an impressive pedigree in this circuit." (discussing *Schmidt*, 204 F. Supp. at 540; *Fox Lake State Bank*, 366 F.2d at 962)).

n66 Boisjoly, 706 F. Supp. at 809.

n67 Id.

n68 Id. at 810.

n69 Id.

n70 Id. at 810-11.

n71 Id. at 811.

n72 See United States ex rel. Kriendler & Kreindler v. United Techs. Corp., 985 F.2d 1148, 1156 (2d Cir. 1993) ("We agree that [Boisjoly] is an unreliable guide." (agreeing with United States ex rel. Hagood v. Sonoma County Water Agency, 929 F.2d 1416, 1421 (9th Cir. 1991))); Hagood, 929 F.2d at 1421 (9th Cir. 1991) ("Boisjoly may be defensible on its facts; its dicta are an unreliable guide."); cf. Tyger Constr. Co. v. United States, 28 Fed. Cl. 35, 59 (1993) ("This court discerns several problems with Boisjoly.").

n73 See Shaw v. AAA Eng'g & Drafting, Inc., 213 F.3d 519, 534-35 (10th Cir. 2000).
n74 <i>Id</i> . at 534 ("[G]overnment knowledge of a contractor's wrongdoing is no longer an automatic defense ")
n75 <i>Id</i> .
n76 See infra note 119 and accompanying text.
n77 929 F.2d 1416 (9th Cir. 1991).
n78 United States <i>ex rel</i> . Kriendler & Kreindler v. United Techs. Corp., 985 F.2d 1148, 1156 (2d Cir. 1993) ("[W]e agree with <i>Hagood</i> .").
n79 Varljen v. Cleveland Gear Co., 250 F.3d 426, 430 (6th Cir. 2001).
n80 United States ex rel. Durcholz v. FKW, Inc., 189 F.3d 542, 544-45 (7th Cir. 1999).
n81 Shaw v. AAA Eng'g & Drafting, Inc., 213 F.3d 519, 534 (10th Cir. 2000).
n82 See Tyger Constr. Co. v. United States, 28 Fed. Cl. 35, 59 (1993).
n83 See United States v. Fiske, 968 F. Supp. 1347, 1352 (E.D. Ark. 1997); United States ex rel. Mayman v. Martin Marietta Corp., 894 F. Supp. 218, 223 (D. Md. 1995); United States ex rel. Milam v. Regents of Univ. of Cal., 912 F. Supp. 868, 888-89 (D. Md. 1995); X Corp. v. Doe, 816 F. Supp. 1086, 1094 (E.D. Va. 1993).
n84 The United States declined to intervene in the case beyond moving to dismiss certain individual defendants. United States <i>ex rel</i> . Hagood v. Sonoma County Water Agency, 929 F.2d 1416, 1418 (9th Cir. 1991) ("Hagood proceeded as the sole plaintiff ").
n85 <i>Id</i> .

n86 <i>Id</i> .
n87 <i>Id</i> .
n88 <i>Id.</i> The district court relied on reasoning under similar facts in <i>Boisjoly v. Morton Thiokol, Inc.</i> , 706 F. Supp. 795, 808-10 (D. Utah 1988).
n89 <i>Hagood</i> , 929 F.2d at 1419 (internal quotation marks omitted).
n90 <i>Id.</i> at 1422.
n91 <i>Id.</i> at 1420.
n92 <i>Id.</i> at 1422. Further, the court noted that in order for the defendant "[t]o take advantage of a disputed legal question [it could] be neither deliberately ignorant nor recklessly disregardful." <i>Id.</i> at 1421.
n93 <i>Id.</i> (citing United States v. Ehrlich, 643 F.2d 634, 638-39 (9th Cir. 1981).
n94 <i>Id</i> .
n95 <i>Id</i> .
n96 See BOESE, supra note 3, at 2-78 ("The 'government knowledge' defense to 'falsity' was dealt a further blow by the Ninth Circuit's first decision in [Hagood]."). Id.
n97 <i>Hagood</i> , 929 F.2d at 1421 ("It may be, as the district court observed, that no damages were suffered when officers of the United States knowledgeably decided to proceed with the contract.").
n98 Id. ("No damages need be shown in order to recover the penalty." (citing Rex Trailer Co. v. United States,

350 U.S. 148, 153 n.5 (1956))).
n99 <i>Id.</i> at 1421-22 (quoting Heckler v. Cmty. Health Servs., 467 U.S. 51, 60, 61 (1984)).
n100 Id. at 1422 (quoting Heckler, 467 U.S. at 63).
n101 975 F.2d 1412 (9th Cir. 1992).
n102 <i>Id.</i> at 1414.
n103 <i>Id.</i> at 1421.
n104 <i>Id.</i> at 1416.
n105 <i>Id</i> . The memorandum "was part of a dialogue with the Army." <i>Id</i> . at 1421.
n106 <i>Id</i> .
n107 <i>Id</i> .
n108 <i>Id.</i> Hardly the model of clarity, the court's use of the concept of a scientifically untrue statement was equated with "scientific error[]" or a scientific theory not fully embraced within the scientific community, as opposed to an outright falsehood, one that was morally wrong. <i>Id.</i> ; <i>see</i> United States <i>ex rel</i> . Harris v. Bernad. 275 F. Supp. 2d 1, 6 (D.D.C. 2003) ("[M]ere disagreements over scientific opinion, methodology, and judgments do not amount to claims under the FCA." (citing <i>Wang Chen-Cheng</i> , 975 F.2d at 1420-21)).
n109 71 F.3d 321 (9th Cir. 1995).
n110 <i>Id.</i> at 324, 325.

n111 <i>Id</i> . at 325.
n112 <i>Id</i> .
n113 <i>Id.</i> at 326 (alteration in original).
n114 <i>Id</i> .
n115 <i>Id</i> .
n116 <i>Id.</i> at 328.
n117 <i>Id.</i> at 329.

n118 Shaw v. AAA Eng'g & Drafting, Inc., 213 F.3d 519, 534 (10th Cir. 2000) ("[G]overnment knowledge of a contractor's wrongdoing is no longer an automatic defense." (citing United States *ex rel*. Hagood v. Sonoma County Water Agency, 929 F.2d 1416, 1420 (9th Cir. 1991); 31 U.S.C. §§ 3729-3733 (2000))); *see also* Varljen v. Cleveland Gear Co., 250 F.3d 426, 430 (6th Cir. 2001) ("[E]ven the government's knowledge of a fraud does not necessarily absolve a contractor from liability under the FCA." (citing *Hagood*, 929 F.2d at 1421)); United States *ex rel*. Kriendler & Kreindler v. United Techs. Corp., 985 F.2d 1148, 1156 (2d Cir. 1993) (concurring with *Hagood*, which "expressly rejected the contention that government knowledge of the falsity of a claim automatically bars an FCA action") citing *Hagood*, 929 F.2d at 1416)); United States *ex rel*. Longhi v. Lithium Power Techs., Inc., 513 F. Supp. 2d 866, 883-84 (S.D. Tex. 2007); United States *ex rel*. Bettis v. Odebrecht Contractors of Cal., 297 F. Supp. 2d 272, 294 (D.D.C. 2004) ("[T]he government's knowledge, while perhaps not a complete defense, is not 'irrelevant.'"); United States v. Fiske, 968 F. Supp. 1347, 1352 (E.D. Ark. 1997); United States *ex rel*. Milam v. Regents of Univ. of Cal., 912 F. Supp. 868, 888 (D. Md. 1995) ("not an absolute defense" (citing Kriendler, 985 F.2d at 1156-57)).

n119 *Hagood*, 929 F.2d at 1421 ("That the relevant government officials know of the falsity is not in itself a defense." (citing United States v. Ehrlich, 643 F.2d 634, 638-39 (9th Cir. 1981))); *see also* United States *ex rel*. Mayman v. Martin Marietta Corp., 894 F. Supp. 218, 223 (D. Md. 1995); United States v. Inc. Vill. of Island Park, 888 F. Supp. 419, 442 (E.D.N.Y. 1995) ("[I]f the defendants knowingly presented or caused to be presented false or fraudulent claims, then it is not a defense that the government officials also knew the claims were false but continued to pay the claims." (citing *Kriendler*, 985 F.2d at 1156)); JOHN CIBINIC, JR. & RALPH C. NASH, JR., FORMATION OF GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS 168-69 (3d ed. 1998) ("[T]he fact that the germane Government officials knew of a claim's falsity is not a defense." (citing *Hagood*, 929 F.2d 1416)).

n120 United States *ex rel*. A+ Homecare, Inc. v. Medshares Mgmt. Group, Inc., 400 F.3d 428, 455 n.21 (6th Cir. 2005) (citing *Kriendler*, 985 F.2d at 1156; *Hagood*, 929 F.2d at 1421).

n121 See United States ex rel. Butler v. Hughes Helicopters, Inc., 71 F.3d 321, 326 (9th Cir. 1995) ("[C]ourts have had to decide case by case whether a FCA claim based on information in the government's possession can succeed.").

n122 See generally United States ex rel. Laird v. Lockheed Martin Eng'g & Sci. Servs. Co., 491 F.3d 254, 262-63 (5th Cir. 2007) (finding Lockheed did not act knowingly); United States ex rel. Costner v. United States, 317 F.3d 883, 887 (8th Cir. 2003) ("[The government's] knowledge . . . bears on whether the defendants had the requisite intent under the Act." (citing United States ex rel. Becker v. Westinghouse Savannah River Co., 305 F.3d 284, 289 (4th Cir. 2002))); Becker, 305 F.3d at 289 ("can negate the scienter required for an FCA violation" (citing United States v. Southland Mgmt. Corp., 288 F.3d 665, 686 (5th Cir. 2002))); Shaw, 213 F.3d at 534; Kriendler, 985 F.2d at 1157; Hagood, 929 F.2d at 1421)); United States ex rel. Stone v. Rockwell Int'l Corp., 282 F.3d 787, 811 (10th Cir. 2002) ("cast doubt on whether he 'knowingly' submitted a false claim" (citing Butler, 71 F.3d at 326-27)), rev'd in part on other grounds, 549 U.S. 457 (2007); Shaw, 213 F.3d at 534 ("[Contractor may not] possess the requisite state of mind" (citing Butler, 71 F.3d at 327; Wang Chen-Cheng ex rel. United States v. FMC Corp., 975 F.2d 1412, 1421 (9th Cir. 1992))); United States ex rel. Durcholz v. FKW, Inc., 189 F.3d 542, 545 (7th Cir. 1999) ("cannot be said to have knowingly presented a fraudulent or false claim" (citing United States ex rel. Lamers v. City of Green Bay, 168 F.3d 1013, 1018 (7th Cir. 1999); Hindo v. Univ. of Health Scis./Chicago Med. Sch., 65 F.3d 608, 613-14 (7th Cir. 1995))); Kriendler, 985 F.2d at 1156, 1157 ("may show that the contractor has not 'knowingly' submitted a false claim" (citing Hagood, 929 F.2d at 1421)); Hagood, 929 F.2d at 1421 ("Such knowledge may show that the defendant did not submit its claim in deliberate ignorance or reckless disregard of the truth."); Longhi, 513 F. Supp. 2d at 883 ("can rebut scienter"); Bettis, 297 F. Supp. 2d at 294 ("serves to negate a finding of scienter"). But cf. Costner, 317 F.3d at 887 (noting that government knowledge may also serve as a defense to the FCA's materiality element).

n123 929 F.2d at 1421.

n124 Id. (citing United States v. Ehrlich, 643 F.2d 634, 638-39 (9th Cir. 1981)).

n125 Id.

n126 See United States v. Southland Mgmt. Corp., 326 F.3d 669, 682-83 n.9 (5th Cir. 2003) (en banc) (Jones, J., concurring) ("In principle, it would seem that the government's knowledge of a false claim would not be an effective defense if the person making the false statement did not know that the government knew it was false . . . ." (citing Durcholz, 189 F.3d at 544-45)).

n127 Id. at 682.

n128 213 F.3d 519 (10th Cir. 2000).

n129 Id. at 527. The contract required AAA to provide equipment to remove trace silver from the photography development process and to properly dispose of various chemicals in compliance with federal standards. Id. Instead, AAA managers directed that the chemicals be deposited in the drain, and various employees complied with that directive. Id. When questioned by government contracting officials, AAA management was evasive about meeting their environmental contractual obligations until the Air Force Office of Special Investigations closed AAA's main photography laboratory. *Id.* at 527-28.

n130 Id. at 534.

n131 See Southland Mgmt. Corp., 326 F.3d at 682 n.9 (Jones, J., concurring) ("In principle, it would seem that the government's knowledge of a false claim would not be an effective defense . . . if the claimant was colluding with the government employee to submit a false claim . . . . " (citing *Durcholz*, 189 F.3d at 544-45)).

n132 Durcholz, 189 F.3d at 546.

n133 Id. at 545; see also United States ex rel. Tyson v. Amerigroup Ill., Inc., No. 02 C-6074, 2005 WL 3111972, at \*6 (N.D. Ill. Oct. 21, 2005) ("The Court of Appeals' conjunctive phrasing--'if the government knows and approves'--would appear to have been purposeful and intended to signal that mere knowledge alone of illegality would not enable those who defraud the government from being able to draw a conjurer's circle around their illegality and insulate themselves from condign punishment.").

n134 See United States ex rel. Costner v. United States, 317 F.3d 883, 887 (8th Cir. 2003); United States ex rel. Becker v. Westinghouse Savannah River Co., 305 F.3d 284, 289 (4th Cir. 2002); see also Am. Contract Servs. v. Allied Mold & Die, Inc., 114 Cal. Rptr. 2d 773, 779-80 (Cal. Ct. App. 2001).

n135 United States ex rel. Tyson v. Amerigroup Ill., Inc., 488 F. Supp. 2d 719, 730 (N.D. Ill. 2007) (citing United States ex rel. Asch v. Teller, Levit & Silvertrust, P.C., No. 00-C-3289, 2004 WL 1093784, at \*3 (N.D. Ill. May 7, 2004)).

n136 See Southland Mgmt. Corp., 326 F.3d at 682 (noting that in many cases government knowledge and acquiescence "was 'highly relevant' to show that the contractor did not submit payment claims in deliberate

ignorance or reckless disregard of their truth or falsity" (citation omitted)). However, for this position the court in Southland cited United States ex rel. Hagood v. Sonoma County Water Agency, 929 F.2d 1416, 1421 (9th Cir. 1991). Id. A fair reading of that opinion fails to reveal the articulation of any such definitive standard. See Hagood, 929 F.2d at 1421.

n137 United States ex rel. Laird v. Lockheed Martin Eng'g & Sci. Servs., Co., 491 F.3d 254, 263 (5th Cir. 2007) (emphasis added) (quoting *Durcholz*, 189 F.3d at 545); accord Tyson, 488 F. Supp. 2d at 729-30.

n138 See United States ex rel. Englund v. Los Angeles County, No. Civ. S-04-282-LKK/JFM, 2006 WL 3097941, at \*8 (E.D. Cal. Oct. 31, 2006) ("when responsible government officials have been fully apprised of all relevant information" (citing United States ex rel. Lamers v. City of Green Bay, 168 F.3d 1013, 1018 (7th Cir. 1999))).

n139 See, e.g., United States ex rel. Butler v. Hughes Helicopters, Inc., 71 F.3d 321, 326, 328 (9th Cir. 1995) (noting that the government knew and approved the specific testing method at issue); X Corp. v. Doe, 816 F. Supp. 1086, 1093 (E.D. Va. 1993) ("X Corp. disclosed to the government that computer equipment supplied under the MASC contract might contain remanufactured components."); Boisjoly v. Morton Thiokol, Inc., 706 F. Supp. 795, 810 (D. Utah 1988) ("informed NASA... of these concerns and their basis").

n140 See infra note 142 and accompanying text.

n141 Hagood, 929 F.2d at 1421 ("relevant government officials"); United States ex rel. Gudur v. Deloitte Consulting LLP, 512 F. Supp. 2d 920, 932 (S.D. Tex. 2007) ("[N]o violation exists where relevant government officials are informed of the alleged falsity . . . . "); United States v. Fiske, 968 F. Supp. 1347, 1352 (E.D. Ark. 1997); see also United States ex rel. Werner v. Fuentez Sys. Concepts, Inc., 115 Fed. App'x 127, 128 (4th Cir. 2004) ("the OSC officials responsible for managing their contracts"); United States ex rel. Grynberg v. Praxair, Inc., 207 F. Supp. 2d 1163, 1178 (D. Colo. 2001) ("known to and approved by the responsible government authorities"); United States ex rel. Durcholz v. FKW, Inc., 997 F. Supp. 1143, 1156 (S.D. Ind. 1998) ("many, if not all, of the relevant Navy officials did know"), aff d, 189 F.3d 542 (7th Cir. 1999); United States ex rel. Lamers v. City of Green Bay, 998 F. Supp. 971, 988 (E.D. Wis. 1998) ("responsible government officials"), aff d, 168 F.3d 1013 (7th Cir. 1999); CIBINIC & NASH, supra note 119, at 168 ("germane Government officials knew"); cf. United States ex rel. Kriendler & Kreindler v. United Techs. Corp., 985 F.2d 1148, 1156 (2d Cir. 1993) (concurring with *Hagood*).

n142 United States ex rel. Becker v. Westinghouse Savannah River Co., 305 F.3d 284, 289 (4th Cir. 2002) ("DOE's full knowledge of the material facts underlying any representations implicit in Westinghouse's conduct negates any knowledge that Westinghouse had regarding the truth or falsity of those representations." (emphasis added)); Shaw v. AAA Eng'g & Drafting, Inc., 213 F.3d 519, 534 (10th Cir. 2000) ("Nevertheless, there may still be occasions when the government's knowledge of or cooperation with a contractor's actions is so extensive that the contractor could not as a matter of law possess the requisite state of mind to be liable under the FCA."

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(citing *Butler*, 71 F.3d at 327; Wang Chen-Cheng *ex rel*. United States v. FMC Corp., 975 F.2d 1412, 1421 (9th Cir. 1992)) (emphasis added)); *Wang Chen-Cheng*, 975 F.2d at 1421 ("FMC was open with the government . . . "); United States v. Prabhu, 442 F. Supp. 2d 1008, 1030 (D. Nev. 2006) ("complied with Government instructions regarding the claims" (citing 31 U.S.C. § 3729(b) (2000))); United States *ex rel*. Werner v. Fuentez Sys. Concepts, Inc., 319 F. Supp. 2d 682, 685 (N.D.W. Va. 2004) ("full knowledge of the defendants' billing practices" by the "Coast Guard officials responsible for handling the contracts"), *aff'd*, 115 F. App'x 127 (4th Cir. 2004); United States *ex rel*. Bettis v. Odebrecht Contractors of Cal., 297 F. Supp. 2d 272, 297 (D.D.C. 2004) ("*fully aware* of and approved of the way that defendant calculated its claims for progress payments" (emphasis added)).

n143 282 F.3d 787, 812 (10th Cir. 2002), rev'd in part on other grounds, 549 U.S. 457 (2007).

n144 Id.

n145 *Id.* & n.11. The court appeared to suggest that this broader range of individuals included "certain authorized representatives of the Contracting Officer acting within the limits of their authority as delegated by the Contracting Officer." *Id.* n.11.

n146 71 F.3d 321 (9th Cir. 1995); Stone, 282 F.3d at 812 n.12.

n147 See Stone, 282 F.3d at 812 n.12 ("Butler rejected the argument that for purposes of determining whether the defendant 'knowingly' submitted a false claim to the Government, only contracting officers' knowledge is relevant.").

n148 Id.

n149 Id. at 812 n.11.

n150 Under agency law, there exists the concept of "apparent" authority. "An agent has 'apparent' authority . . . where the principal has held out the agent as having such authority or has permitted the agent to represent that he has such authority." United States v. Schaltenbrand, 930 F.2d 1554, 1560 (11th Cir. 1991). However, in government procurement law, the United States cannot be bound under the theory of apparent authority. JOHN CIBINIC, JR., RALPH C. NASH, JR. & JAMES F. NAGLE, ADMINISTRATION OF GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS 31 (4th ed. 2006) ("Recognizing the importance of effective government control over the conduct of its agents, the courts and boards have rejected the apparent authority rule, holding that *actual authority* is required to bind the government."); *see also* Telenor Satellite Servs., Inc. v. United States, 71 Fed. Cl. 114, 119 (2006) (noting that apparent authority is insufficient to bind the government); Am. Anchor & Chain Corp. v.

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United States, 331 F.2d 860, 861-62 (Ct. Cl. 1964) (noting that conduct of employee with apparent authority binds a contractor, but only actual authority of a government employee will bind the United States).

n151 Fed. Crop Ins. Corp. v. Merrill, 332 U.S. 380, 384-85 (1947); Starflight Boats v. United States, 48 Fed. Cl. 592, 597-98 (2001); see also Ralph C. Nash & John Cibinic, Contracting Authority of Government Employees: Handle with Care!, in 12 NASH AND CIBINIC REPORT 9, P50, at 138 (1998) ("The rule is clear that the Government is only bound by the acts of its employees that are within the scope of their actual authority.") [hereinafter NASH & CIBINIC REPORT].

n152 Real Estate Technical Advisors, Inc., 03-1 B.C.A. (CCH) P32,074 at 158,507 (A.S.B.C.A. Nov. 18, 2002).

n153 Winter v. Cath-Dr/Balti Joint Venture, 497 F.3d 1339, 1344 (Fed. Cir. 2007); see CIBINIC, NASH & NAGLE, supra note 150, at 31 ("Contracting officers have the sole authority to legally bind the government to contracts and contract modifications."); see also 48 C.F.R. § 1.601(a) (2007) ("Contracts may be entered into and signed on behalf of the Government only by contracting officers."). The Federal Acquisition Regulation is contained in 48 C.F.R. Chapter 1. Contracting officers' authority "flows from the head of the agency." CIBINIC, NASH & NAGLE, supra note 150, at 33.

n154 48 C.F.R. § 1.602-1(a).

n155 Id. § 43.102(a).

n156 Id. § 1.603-3(a); see also id. § 1.602-1(a) (requiring clear written instructions concerning the limits of their authority); NASH & CIBINIC REPORT, supra note 151, P50, at 138 ("The scope of a CO's authority can generally be found by looking at the internal document granting the authority.").

n157 48 C.F.R. § 1.602-1(a) ("Information on the limits of the contracting officers' authority shall be readily available to the public and agency personnel.").

n158 NASH & CIBINIC REPORT, supra note 151, P50, at 141.

n159 Winter v. Cath-Dr/Balti Joint Venture, 497 F.3d 1339, 1344 (Fed. Cir. 2007) ("When authorized, the contracting officer may delegate some of its authority to certain designated representatives, who act on behalf of the government during contract administration." (citing CIBINIC, NASH & NAGLE, supra note 150, at 39)).

n160 48 C.F.R. § 1.602-1(a); see also id. § 2.101(b). However, contracting officers may bind the government only to the extent that authority has been delegated to them to do so. Id. § 1.602-1(a).

n161 The contracting officer may delegate authority to his/her authorized representatives. Id. § 2.101(b); see also CIBINIC, NASH & NAGLE, supra note 150, at 37 (contracting officers may be granted authority to appoint subsidiary contracting officers or other representatives).

n162 The ACO is a type of contracting officer that administers a contract after it has been awarded. 48 C.F.R. § 2.101(b). Contracting officers who award the contract are known as procuring contracting officers (PCO) who may also retain some or all authority for administering the contract. CIBINIC, NASH & NAGLE, supra note 150, at 37. Indeed, "[a] single contracting officer may be responsible for duties in any or all of these areas." 48 C.F.R. § 2.101(b) (referring to the procuring, administration, and termination of a contract).

n163 The TCO is a type of contracting officer who settles terminated contracts. 48 C.F.R. § 2.101(b).

n164 CIBINIC, NASH & NAGLE, supra note 150, at 39.

n165 Id.

n166 Id. at 30-31. Government employees other than contracting officers may be delegated authority to perform various contract-related functions. Id. at 31.

n167 Id. at 33.

n168 Id. at 43.

n169 Real Estate Technical Advisors, Inc., 03-1 B.C.A. (CCH) P32,074 at 158,507 (A.S.B.C.A. Nov. 18, 2002).

n170 Telenor Satellite Servs., Inc. v. United States, 71 Fed. Cl. 114, 120 (2006) (alteration in original) (quoting H. Landau & Co. v United States, 886 F.2d 322, 324 (Fed. Cir. 1989)); see also Brunner v. United States, 70 Fed. Cl. 623, 640-41 (2006); Real Estate Technical Advisors, Inc., 03-1 B.C.A. P32,074, at 158,507; CIBINIC, NASH & NAGLE, supra note 150, at 44.

n171 Confidential Informant v. United States, 46 Fed. Cl. 1, 7 (2000) (quoting Roy v. United States, 38 Fed. Cl. 184, 189 (1997)).

n172 CIBINIC, NASH & NAGLE, *supra* note 150, at 43; *see also Brunner*, 70 Fed. Cl. at 641 ("This implied authority to contract must be based upon 'at the least, some limited, related authority.'" (citing Cal. Sand & Gravel, Inc., v. United States, 22 Cl. Ct. 19, 27 (1990))).

n173 See Starflight Boats v. United States, 48 Fed. Cl. 592, 599 (2001) ("Although Brian was involved in the administration of this contract, a person with no actual authority can not acquire actual authority 'through the court-made rule of implied actual authority." (quoting Cal. Sand & Gravel, Inc., 22 Cl. Ct. at 27)).

n174 See United States v. Nat'l Wholesalers, 236 F.2d 944, 950 (9th Cir. 1956) ("[W]e do not believe that the Congress ever intended that contracting officers should have the power to vitiate the False Claims statute."); see also United States v. Cushman & Wakefield, Inc., 275 F. Supp. 2d 763, 771 (N.D. Tex. 2002) ("A violation of the rights of the United States may not be waived or ratified by the unauthorized acts of its agents."); United States ex rel. Mayman v. Martin Marietta Corp., 894 F. Supp. 218, 223 (D. Md. 1995) ("[A] government officer cannot authorize a contractor to violate federal regulations."); United States v. Cripps, 460 F. Supp. 969, 973-74 (E.D. Mich. 1978) (stating that a federal employee who urges someone to defraud the government acts ultra vires). Because they lack the authority to waive fraud, acquisition officials cannot "ratify" such conduct. See CIBINIC, NASH & NAGLE, supra note 150, at 48 ("[I]llegal actions cannot be ratified because officials lack the authority to enter into illegal agreements."); cf. Winter v. Cath-DR/Balti Joint Venture, 497 F.3d 1339, 1347 (Fed. Cir. 2007) (noting that authority is a prerequisite to ratification).

n175 Mayman, 894 F. Supp at 223 ("A contractor who tells a government contracting officer that a claim is false still violates the statute when the false claim is submitted." (citing United States *ex rel*. Hagood v. Sonoma County Water Agency, 929 F.2d 1416, 1421 (9th Cir. 2001))); *Cripps*, 460 F. Supp. at 973 ("To the extent that defendant is urging that someone at HUD authorized him to engage in this conduct to defraud HUD and submit false claims and derive a benefit therefrom, such assertion even if true is no defense to plaintiff's [FCA] claim."); *cf. Hagood*, 929 F.2d at 1421 ("That the relevant government officials know of the falsity is not in itself a defense." (citing United States v. Ehrlich, 643 F.2d, 638-39 (9th Cir. 1981))); United States v. Inc. Vill. of Island Park, 888 F. Supp. 419, 442 (E.D.N.Y. 1995) ("Defendants knowingly caused false claims to be presented and that, after the government became aware of the underlying scheme, it continued to pay claims only because it had already become contractually bound to make those payments as a result of the defendant's fraudulent course of conduct.").

n176 Nat'l Wholesalers, 236 F.2d at 950; see also United States ex rel. McCray Sanitation Serv. v. Midwest Container Co., 7 F.3d 1046, at \*2 (10th Cir. 1993) (unpublished table decision) ("[Contracting agency cannot] 'ratify' any previous fraud by [contractor].").

n177 48 C.F.R. § 33.210(b) (2007).

n178 41 U.S.C. § 605(a) (2000).

n179 See United States v. United Techs. Corp., No. 5:92-CV-375 (EBB), 1996 WL 653620, at \*2 (D. Conn. Oct. 11, 1996) ("The statute's restriction on the authority of agency heads should be read as encompassing their subordinates."); cf. Contract Disputes Act of 1978, S. REP. NO. 95-1118, at 19 (1978), as reprinted in 1978 U.S.C.C.A.N. 5235, 5253 ("[I]t is not the intent of this section to authorize Agency heads, contracting officers, or agency boards to settle or compromise claims independent of their legal or contractual merits . . . .").

n180 See United States ex rel. A+ Homecare, Inc. v. Medshares Mgmt. Group, Inc., 400 F.3d 428, 455 n.21 (6th Cir. 2005) ("[Government knowledge may be] used to demonstrate that what the defendant submitted was not actually false but rather conformed to a modified agreement . . . ."); United States ex rel. Kreindler & Kreindler v. United Techs. Corp., 985 F.2d 1148, 1157 (2d Cir. 1993) ("In some cases, the fact that government officials knew of the contractor's actions may show that the contract has been modified or that its intent has been clarified, and therefore that the claim submitted by the contractor was not 'false.'").

n181 48 C.F.R. § 33.210 (noting that contracting officers are authorized to resolve and decide contractual claims).

n182 48 C.F.R. § 33.204 ("The Government's policy is to try to resolve all contractual issues in controversy by mutual agreement at the contracting officer's level.").

n183 United States *ex rel*. Bettis v. Odebrecht Contractors of Cal., Inc., 297 F. Supp. 2d 272, 294 (D.D.C. 2004); *cf*. United States *ex rel*. Stebner v. Stewart & Stephenson Servs., Inc., 144 F. App'x 389, 394 (5th Cir. 2005) (applying government knowledge defense when "the Government negotiated contract modifications in response to the well-documented corrosion problem.").

n184 See Fed. Crop Ins. Corp. v. Merrill, 332 U.S. 380, 384-85 (1947) ("Just as everyone is charged with knowledge of the United States Statutes at Large, Congress has provided that the appearance of rules and regulations in the Federal Register gives legal notice of their contents." (citing Federal Register Act, ch. 417, sec. 7, 49 stat. 500, 502 (1935))); Nobles v. Rural Cmty. Ins. Servs., 303 F. Supp. 2d 1292, 1303 (M.D. Ala. 2004) ("[charged] with notice of the provisions in the Code of Federal Regulations" (citing Merrill, 332 U.S. at 384-85)); In re Doe I, 969 F. Supp. 561, 563 (D. Ariz. 1996).

n185 Merrill, 332 U.S. at 385 (quoting Rock Island, Ark. & La. R.R. Co. v. United States, 254 U.S. 141, 143 (1920)).

n186 NASH & CIBINIC REPORT, supra note 151, P50, at 139 (citation omitted).

n187 Brunner v. United States, 70 Fed. Cl. 623, 644 (2006) ("[P]ublicly-accessible laws or regulations can limit the contracting authority that would otherwise be implied by a government agent's related powers, for potential contractors are on notice of such restrictions."); NASH & CIBINIC REPORT, supra note 151, P50, at 139 ("Agency regulations may also contain limitations on authority and such regulations will be binding on contractors if they are published.").

n188 Winter v. Cath-Dr/Balti Joint Venture, 497 F.3d 1339, 1346 (Fed. Cir. 2007) ("[C]ould not have had the implicit authority to authorize contract modifications because the contract language and the government regulation it incorporates by reference explicitly state that only the contracting officer had the authority to modify the contract.") (emphasis omitted).

n189 United States ex rel. Compton v. Midwest Specialties, Inc., 142 F.3d 296, 302 n.4 (6th Cir. 1998) ("[T]he 'square-corners' rule applies fully in the False Claims Act context." (citing United States v. Aerodex, Inc., 469 F.2d 1003, 1007 (5th Cir. 1972))); but cf. United States ex rel. A+ Homecare, Inc. v. Medshares Mgmt. Group, Inc., 400 F.3d 428, 446 (6th Cir. 2005) (holding that the "natural tendency" standard was proper for determining whether a false statement was material under the FCA).

n190 SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE, FALSE CLAIMS AMENDMENTS ACT OF 1986, S. REP. NO. 99-345, at 7 (1986), reprinted in 1986 U.S.C.C.A.N. 5266, 5272 ("But the Committee does believe the civil False Claims Act should recognize that those doing business with the Government have an obligation to make a limited inquiry to ensure the claims they submit are accurate.").

n191 Id. at 14-15, 17, 21.

n192 Id. at 21; see also Crane Helicopter Servs., Inc. v. United States, 45 Fed. Cl. 410, 433 (1999) ("[The FCA's knowing standard was designed to address | 'the 'ostrich-like' refusal to learn of information which an individual, in the exercise of prudent judgment, had reason to know" and to reach "those who ignore obvious warning signs.") (citation omitted).

n193 United States v. Nat'l Wholesalers, 236 F.2d 944, 950 (9th Cir. 1956).

n194 See United States ex rel. Costner v. United States, 317 F.3d 883, 887 (8th Cir. 2003) ("If the government knows and approves of the particulars of a claim for payment before that claim is presented . . . . " (emphasis added) (altercation omitted) (quoting United States ex rel. Becker v. Westinghouse Savannah River Co., 305 F.3d 542, 543 (7th Cir. 1999))); United States ex rel. Stone v. Rockwell Int'l Corp., 282 F.3d 787, 811 (10th Cir.

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2002) ("The defendant . . . may be able to cast doubt on whether he 'knowingly' submitted a false claim by showing that the Government itself was already aware of the facts underlying the FCA claim when the allegedly fraudulent claim was submitted." (citing United States *ex rel*. Butler v. Hughes Helicopters, Inc., 71 F.3d 321, 326-27 (9th Cir. 1995))); United States *ex rel*. Durcholz v. FKW, Inc., 189 F.3d 542, 545 (7th Cir. 1999) ("before [the] claim is presented"); *see also* United States *ex rel*. Laird v. Lockheed Martin Eng'g & Sci. Servs. Co., 491 F.3d 254, 263 (5th Cir. 2007) ("before that claim is presented" (citing *Durcholz*, 189 F.3d at 545)); United States *ex rel*. Humphrey v. Franklin-Williamson Human Servs., Inc., 189 F. Supp. 2d 862, 867 (S.D. Ill. 2002) ("before [the] claim is presented") citing *Durcholz*, 189 F.3d. at 545)); United States *ex rel*. Maxwell v. Kerr-McGee Chem. Worldwide, LLC, No. 04-CV-01224-PSF-CBS, 2006 WL 2869515, at \*16 (D. Colo. Oct. 6, 2006); *cf*. United States v. Southland Mgmt. Corp., 326 F.3d 669, 682 n.9 (5th Cir. 2003) (en banc) (Jones, J., concurring) ("In principle, it would seem that the government's knowledge of a false claim would not be an effective defense . . . if the government's knowledge came 'too late in the process" (quoting *Durcholz*, 189 F.3d at 544-45)); United States v. Shasta Servs., Inc., 440 F. Supp. 2d 1108, 1113-14 (E.D. Cal. 2006) (applying the defense to California's FCA).

n195 See, e.g., Becker, 305 F.3d at 287-89; X Corp. v. Doe, 816 F. Supp. 1086, 1093 (E.D. Va. 1993) (finding government notification in defendant's proposal).

n196 See supra notes 173, 175, and accompanying text.

n197 236 F.2d 944 (9th Cir. 1956).

n198 Id. at 945.

n199 Id. at 945-96.

n200 Id. at 946.

n201 Id. at 946 & n.3.

n202 Id. at 948.

n203 Id. at 946.

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n204 <i>Id.</i> at 946, 948.
n205 <i>Id.</i> at 948.
n206 <i>Id.</i> at 949-50. The district court also erroneously determined that the contract permitted "equals." <i>Id.</i> at 949.
n207 Id. at 950.
n208 <i>Id</i> .
n209 <i>Id</i> .
n210 <i>Id</i> .
n211 United States ex rel. Gudur v. Deloitte Consulting LLP, 512 F. Supp. 2d 920, 932 (S.D. Tex. 2007).
n212 929 F.2d 1416 (9th Cir. 1991).

# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

UNITED STATES ex rel. BRIAN BURKE

Plaintiff,

Case No. 1:08-cv-364(EGS)(DAR)

-versus-

Judge: Deborah A. Robinson

RECORD PRESS, INC.,

Defendant.

# <u> AFFIDAVIT:</u>

"I declare and certify, verify, and state under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed on July 10, 2013:

Affiant, Morris Gocial, CPA/CFF, CVA, CrFA, DAFBA

Your Honor, G3 of PA LLC, formerly Gold Gocial Gerstein LLC has been engaged by Tyler Jay King, Esquire, to

determine the amount of damages suffered, if any, by United States *ex rel*. Brian Burke ("Burke") due to the wrongful interpretation by defendant of terms defined in the Invitation for Bid ("IFB") between the Government Printing Office ("GPO") and Record Press, Inc. ("Defendant").

It is my opinion that the damages sustained by the plaintiff approximate those damages as calculated at the request of the law office of Tyler Jay King, Esquire, in the amount of \$513, 793.91.

All opinions contained in this report are rendered and expressed with a reasonable degree of accounting certainty.

## **BACKGROUND**

Brian Burke was the plaintiff in a lawsuit, Brian Burke v. Donald L. Evans, Secretary,

United States Department of Commerce, in the United States District Court of the Southern District of New York. The case was ruled in the Department of Commerce's favor and Burke appealed the decision in the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit. The appeals case was ruled in the Department of Commerce's favor. Burke was then served by the U.S. Attorney's Office with an Itemized and Verified Bill of Costs pursuant to an action in which he was a pro se litigant before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit. Upon receiving the bill, which summarized charges to the Government for printing and binding appellate briefs and appendices, Burke investigated and discovered that the Defendant was overcharging the Government nearly 10 times the rate specified by its contract with GPO as it pertains to line item II(d).

In the course of investigating the charges listed in the Itemized and Verified Bill of Costs, Burke was provided with an IFB for Program 2231-S (formerly 1272-S) dated October 18, 2006 effective November 1, 2006 and ending October 31, 2007 with option for renewal for four annual terms. The IFB provides general terms, conditions, and specifications of the single award for the procurement of appeals briefs.

Burke reviewed the IFB and noted that on Page 14 of 15, under Section 4 – Schedule of Prices, II. Complete Product, there is an underlined indication reflecting "Note: Running Rate is per 10 copies". However, upon review of Itemized and Verified Bill of Costs, it appears that Collating, Trimming to Size and Binding costs noted at II(d) were charged at \$12.25 per 100 pages. Burke believes the United States has been overcharged by Record Press because they charged this line item for every copy of each brief or appendix prepared, rather than per 10 copies as specified in the contract.

Our calculation of damages was supported, in part, by review of IFB for Program

2231-S, as well as review of IFB for Program 1272-S effective August 2001. We also received Record Press, Inc. invoices and reviewed for proper contract terms application. Additionally, we reviewed the depositions/declarations of the following individuals: Hugh Wilmot (President of Record Press, Inc.), and Raymond Thomas Sullivan (Director, Major APS Acquisitions of the United States Government Printing Office). We noted through their sworn testimony that it is the position of both Record Press, Inc. and GPO that the invoices submitted and paid are accurate and in accordance with the terms of the respective IFB in place at time services were performed. We disagree with their interpretation of the terms of the IFB as outlined in this report.

We also consulted an industry expert, Robert Dworski ("Dworski"). Dworski has 38 years (1971 to 2009) of experience in the printing and publishing industry beginning with his sales and marketing position with Packard Press. His role was to expand the sales and publishing efforts of The Legal Intelligencer and those of the Financial Printing Division. His exposure and training put him in contact with both the manufacturing and administrative areas of the process. Dworski became the sales manager for the company and secured contracts from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and other government entities. This position also facilitated involvement in the pricing and management of contracts. Dworski's conclusion based on review of information provided supports our position that there is misleading terminology in referencing of services provided on Record Press invoices and inconsistencies in rates charged for similar services on numerous invoices which are inconsistent with the terms of the IFB.

PROCEDURES PERFORMED AND FINDINGS

- (1) Based on review of IFB 2231-S and IFB 1272-S (exhibit A Doc. 67), and identified as "Basis of Award" on the accompanying schedule to the IFB, it appears there may have been a lack of oversight and attention to detail by the GPO in preparation of the IFB.
- (2) Page 12 of 15, Section 4 Schedule of Prices, refers to "fractional parts of 10 will be prorated" which supports our position that where a running rate of 10 copies is referenced that rates charged are per 10 copies. (Exhibit B Doc. 67)
- (3) Page 14 of 15, Section 4, II Complete Product, specifically states "Note:

  Running rate is per 10 copies" which covers parts (a), (b), (c), and (d). This further supports our position that the rates charged in this section are for every 10 copies rather than for each copy. (Exhibit C Doc. 67)

With respect to our review of the invoices the following was performed:

We received 1710 invoices as listed on an accompanying excel spreadsheet (*Exhibit D Doc. 67*) prepared at the request of the law office of Tyler Jay King, Esquire, attorney for Burke. The spreadsheet outlined the calculated damages as they related to line item II(d) Collating, Trimming to Size and Binding only. As we are relying on the accuracy of the spreadsheet received, we determined our testing could be completed on a sample basis. As such we performed testing of 100 invoices selected as follows:

40 invoices Top highest damages calculated
60 invoices Random selection from remaining population
100 invoices Total Tested

From the spreadsheet, we sorted by damages amount in descending order and selected the top 40 items that reflected the highest damages based only on line II(d) discrepancies. We then recalculated all line items referenced on each of these invoices and recomputed damages, according to our understanding of the IFB terms.

We then randomly selected 60 additional items from the remaining population and performed recalculation of all line items for each invoice and recomputed damages, according to our understanding of the IFB terms.

Our review of the above-mentioned invoices yielded the following information:

- a) Of the 100 invoices tested, which represented approximately 5.8% of invoices received, the damages computed equals \$113,972.64, or approximately 22% of total damages calculated on the spreadsheet.
- b) Our review detected inaccuracies in charges of other line items as defined in the IFB besides line item II(d) which we did not consider in our damages calculation.
- c) Our review detected other errors such as inconsistent rates charged for "Crack and Peel Covers" and "Page Text", as well as, misleading terminology utilized in line items referencing the services provided, amongst several invoices which we did not consider in our damages calculation.

The errors we found in our test sampling demonstrates that Record Press did not bill for services performed according to the contract and the personnel at GPO apparently were not diligent in reviewing the invoices as submitted for compliance to contract terms as written. This fact disputes the declaration of Raymond Thomas Sullivan that "7. Record Press, Inc. properly charged for services for GPO program 2231-S for the printing of briefs, and fully abided its contractual obligations to GPO. I have found no evidence of fraud or overcharging by Record Press, Inc. in connection with this matter." (*Exhibit E Doc. 67*)

## CONCLUSION

Based upon the procedures performed and results obtained thereto, it is my professional opinion within a reasonable degree of accounting certainty that the amount of damages suffered by the United States approximates those damages as calculated on the spreadsheets in Exhibit D in the amount of \$513,793.91 for the period January 2001

through April 2010. My opinion is based on my many years of experience of reviewing contracts in my capacity as a certified public accountant as well as my experience as a forensic accountant. I reserve the right to amend or supplement this Affidavit/Declaration should additional information become available.

Morris Gocial, CPA/CFF, CVA, CrFA, DAFBA

Dated July 10, 2013

# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

BRIAN BURKE,

Plaintiff / Counter-Defendant,

v.

RECORD PRESS, INC.,

Defendant / Counter-Claimant.

Civil Action No. 08-0364 DAR

## **ORDER**

The Court entered judgment on partial findings in favor of Defendant Record Press, Inc. on June 13, 2013. Judgment (Document No. 93); see also Memorandum Opinion (Document No. 91); Order (Document No. 92). In doing so, the Court concluded that "Plaintiff's claims cannot be maintained under controlling law" and made no further findings with respect to Plaintiff's conduct in this litigation. See Memorandum Opinion at 8. Defendant, in moving for judgment, based its request on Plaintiff's insufficient evidentiary showing. Trial Transcript, February 14, 2011 (Document No. 90) at 108. Thereafter, Defendant moved for an award of attorneys' fees in the amount of \$279,262.00, and "reasonable costs expenses" in the amount of \$8,878.94. Defendant Record Press, Inc.'s Motion for Attorney Fees and Expenses (Document No. 94). Plaintiff filed a memorandum in opposition to the motion (Document No. 97), and, apparently in further response to Defendant's motion, moved to alter or amend the judgment. Plaintiff's Motion to Alter or Amend Judgment (Document No. 96). Both Plaintiff and Defendant filed a reply memorandum (Document Nos. 99, 100).

Burke v. Record Press, Inc.

2

Upon consideration of the full extent of the written submissions, in the context of the entire record herein, the Court finds that neither request for relief is warranted under the applicable authorities. More specifically, the Court finds that both Plaintiff and Defendant invite the Court either to undertake an entirely new course of litigation regarding issues wholly collateral to the qui tam action which now has been litigated and decided, see, e.g., Defendant Record Press, Inc.'s Memorandum of Points and Authorities in Support of its Motion for Attorney Fees and Expenses at 13 (regarding an action for alleged discrimination brought by Plaintiff in the Southern District of New York in 2004), or to make findings with respect to ad hominum attacks on the opposing party, see, e.g., Plaintiff's Motion to Alter or Amend Judgment, Exhibit 1 at 1 ("Defendant, by counsel, has misstated evidence, used misdirection, misquoted, obfuscated, etc. in order to prevail and now retaliate and destroy this blue collar whistleblowing Civil Servant financially via ruinous fines/fees."). No construction of any federal statute or rule warrants the conclusion that the Court, under the guise of an award of fees and costs, or relief from judgment, must intervene in the ongoing animosity between the parties. See, e.g., Slate v. Am. Broad. Cos., No. 09-1761, 2013 WL 6713178, at \*2 (D.D.C. Dec. 20, 2013) (litigants may not use Rule 59 either to repeat unsuccessful arguments or relitigate old matters); cf. Robertson v. Cartinhour, 883 F. Supp. 2d 121, 125 (D.D.C. 2012) (citation omitted) (internal quotation marks omitted) (noting, in the context of a request for attorneys' fees pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1927, "that, to warrant such a sanction, the attorney's conduct must be at least reckless"), aff'd, No. 12-7100, 2014 WL 590507 (D.C. Cir. Jan. 22, 2014); U.S. ex rel. J. Cooper & Assocs. v. Bernard Hodes Grp., Inc., 422 F. Supp. 2d 225, 238 (D.D.C. 2006) (citations omitted) (observing, in the context of request for fees pursuant to 31 U.S.C. § 3730(d)(4), that

USCA Case #14-7077 Document #1530697 Filed: 01/07/2015 Page 496 of 605

Burke v. Record Press, Inc.

3

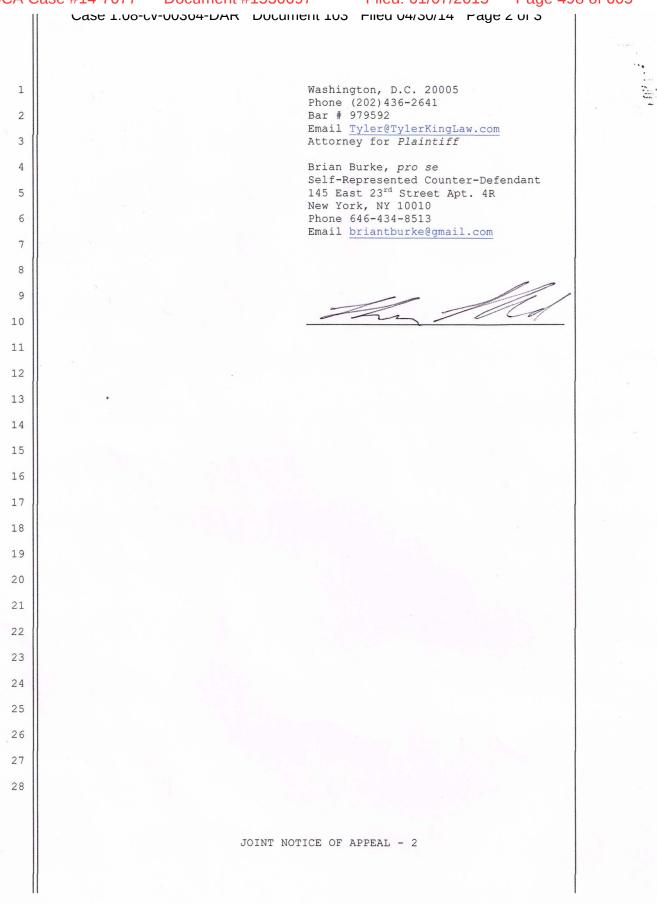
"[t]he court can only base an award of attorneys' fees and expenses 'upon a finding that the plaintiff's action was frivolous, unreasonable, or without foundation". It is, therefore, hereby **ORDERED** that both motions are **DENIED**.

It is, this 31st day of March, 2014,

SO ORDERED.

/s/
DEBORAH A. ROBINSON
United States Magistrate Judge

```
1
   [Attorney Names]
   [Attorneys' Business Address]
2
 3
                   UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
 4
                        DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
5
 6
7
                                 ) Case No.: 1:08-cv-000364(DAR)
   UNITED STATES ex rel. BRIAN BURKE,
8
   Plaintiff/Counter-Defendant,
                                     JOINT NOTICE OF APPEAL
9
   VS.
10
   RECORD PRESS, INC.,
11
   Defendant/Counter-Plaintiff
12
13
        PLAINTIFF/COUNTER-DEFENDANT'S JOINT NOTICE
14
   OF APPEAL FROM MARCH 31 2014 ORDER DENYING
15
   MOTION TO ALTER OR AMEND JUDGEMENT AND JUNE 13
   2013 JUDGEMENT DENYING COUNTER-DEFENDANT'S
16
   OMNIBUS MOTION TO DISMISS WITH PREJUDICE.
17
18
                    NOTICE OF APPEAL
19
        Notice is hereby given that Plaintiff/Counter-Defendant
20
   United States ex rel. Brian Burke and Brian Burke pro se in the
   above captioned matter hereby appeal to the United States Court
21
   of Appeals for the District of Columbia from the District
   court's Order of March 31, 2014 regarding Motion to Alter or
22
   Amend Judgment and Judgment of June 13, 2013 regarding Counter-
23
   Defendant's Omnibus Motion to Dismiss with Prejudice.
                                    Dated this 25 of April, 2014
24
25
26
                                    Tyler Jay King esq. /S/
27
                                    TYLER KING LAW FIRM
                                    1420 N Street NW, Suite 706
28
                           JOINT NOTICE OF APPEAL - 1
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# REPRESENTATION STATEMENT

Pursuant to Federal Rule of Appellate Procedure 12(b), the names, addresses and phone numbers of Appellant's Counsel.

- 1) Appellant/Plaintiff United States ex rel. Brian Burke by Tyler Jay King esq. 1420 N Street NW, Suite 706 Washington D.C. 20005 Phone (202)436-2641 Email Tyler@TylerKingLaw.com Bar# 979592.
  - 2) Appellant/Counter-Defendant Brian Burke by Brian Burke pro se 145 East 23<sup>rd</sup> Street apt. 4R New York, NY 10010. Phone 646-434-8513 Email briantburke@gmail.com

JOINT NOTICE OF APPEAL - 3

Refer To Invoice # with Payment

229 West 36th Street, New York, NY 10018

Phone (212) 619-4949 Fax (212) 220-2767

e-mail: accounting@recordpress.com

Federal I.D. Number 13-5654060

SOLD TO:

**COMPTROLLER - STOP FMCE (ED)** OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MGMT. US GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

**WASHINGTON, DC 20401** 

INVOICE DATE
1/23/2006
CUSTOMER PHONE
JACKET No. 604-036
CUSTOMER FAX
202 512 0002

PURCHASE ORDE	PRINT ORDER No.	Due Date	NET TERMS	ACCT	PROGRAM No. JO		)B NUMBER	
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Refer To Invoice # with Payment

229 West 36th Street, New York, NY 10018

Phone (212) 619-4949 Fax (212) 220-2767

e-mail: accounting@recordpress.com

Federal I.D. Number 13-5654060

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US GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

WASHINGTON, DC 20401

**INVOICE DATE** 1/31/2006 **CUSTOMER PHONE** JACKET No. 604-036 **CUSTOMER FAX** 

						202 512-0992
PURCHASE ORDER	PRINT ORDER No.	Due Date	NET TERMS	ACCT	PROGRAM No.	JOB NUMBER
	01851	3/2/2006	Net 30	Н	2885-S	15234

### USA v. Grae QUANTITY DESCRIPTION PRICE **AMOUNT** RE: USA v. Grae, Rybicki & Partners, P.C. Docket No. 05-5097-cr(L) / Print Order No. 01851 For printing and binding 20 copies of the above Brief for the U.S.: Printing of 20 Covers @ 1 60.00 60.00 19 Pages Text @ 2.00 38.00 Party Served and Filed @ 15.00 1 15.00 Electronic Filing and Service of Brief @ 1 30.00 30.00 143.00 1 Postage @ 4.20 4.20 **SUBTOTAL** \$147.20 TAX (0.0%) \$0.00 WE ACCEPT ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS AND WIRE TRANSFERS TOTAL \$147.20 MONEY ON ACC'T \$-147.20

# Thank you for your business.

Thank you for your business.

\$0.00

**BALANCE DUE** 



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OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MGMT. US GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

**WASHINGTON, DC 20401** 

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Thank you for your business.

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**BALANCE DUE** 

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229 West 36th Street, New York, NY 10018

Phone (212) 619-4949 Fax (212) 220-2767

e-mail: accounting@recordpress.com

Federal I.D. Number 13-5654060

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OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT
U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

**WASHINGTON, DC 20401** 

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	202 512 0002

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RECORD PRESS, INC.

229 West 36th Street, 8th Floor New York, N.Y. 10018-8019

# Invoice

Date	Invoice #	
4/26/2006	A69669	

Filed: 01/07/2015

Bill To

COMPTROLLER - STOP FMCE (ED)

COMPTROLLER - STOP FMCE (ED)
OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MGMT.
US GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE
WASHINGTON, DC 20401

	P.O. No.	/ Terms	Project
	2231-S	Net 30	,
Description	Qty	Rate	Amount
RE: Yves Gelin v. John W. Snow Docket No. 05-6043-cv / Print Order No. 65116 For printing and binding 40 copies of the above Brief for Defendant-Appellee:  Typeset Cover @ \$10.00 Per Page Covers Printed @ \$0.55 Per Cover Pages Text Printed x 40 Copies @ \$0.03 Per Page Collating, Trimming to Size and Binding Charge 2,240 Pages @ \$12.00 Per 100 Pages Party Served and Filed @ Electronic Filing and Service of Brief @ Postage @	1 40 2,240 1 1 1	10.00 0.55 0.03 268.80 50.00 30.00 5.15	10.00 22.00 67.20 268.80 50.00 30.00 448.00 5.15
Thank you for your business.		Subtotal	\$453.15
,		Sales Tax (0.0%)	\$0.00
		Total	\$453.15
		Payments/Credits	\$-453.15
		Balance Due	\$0.00



Document #1530697

### **INVOICEA71708**

Refer To Invoice # with Payment

229 West 36th Street, New York, NY 10018

Phone (212) 619-4949 Fax (212) 220-2767

e-mail: accounting@recordpress.com

Federal I.D. Number 13-5654060

SOLD TO:

**COMPTROLLER-STOP FMCE (SD)** OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

**WASHINGTON, DC 20401** 

INV	OICE DATE
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	B0608	1/25/2007	Net 30	Н			
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	For printing and bind	ling 20 copie	es of the above H	Brief for		*	
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Thank you for your business.



Document #1530697

### **INVOICEA74177**

Refer To Invoice # with Payment

229 West 36th Street, New York, NY 10018

Phone (212) 619-4949 Fax (212) 220-2767

e-mail: accounting@recordpress.com

Federal I.D. Number 13-565406

SOLD TO:

**COMPTROLLER-STOP FMCE (SD)** OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

**WASHINGTON, DC 20401** 

INVOICE DATE
10/31/2007
<b>CUSTOMER PHONE</b>
JACKET No. 604-044
CUSTOMER FAX
202 512-0992

PURCHASE ORDER	PRINT ORDER No.	Due Date	NET TERMS	ACCT	PROGRAM No.	JOB NUMBER
		11/30/2007	Net 30	Н		20228C
In Pa United States						

#### In Re United States

QUANTITY	DESCRIPTION	PRICE	AMOUNT			
	For printing 40 copies of the above referenced BRIEF COVER					
1 40	Typeset Cover @ \$10.00 Per Page Covers Printed @ \$0.60 Per Cover Subtotal	10.00 0.60	10.00 24.00 34.00			
d .		SUBTOTAL	\$34.00			
a.	WE AGGERT ALL MAYOR OPENING APPRO	TAX (0.0%)	\$0.00			
	WE ACCEPT ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS AND WIRE TRANSFERS	TOTAL	\$34.00			
L,						

Thank you for your business.

Thank you for your business.

MONEY ON ACC'T \$-34.00 **BALANCE DUE** \$0.00



Refer To Invoice # with Payment

229 West 36th Street, New York, NY 10018

Phone (212) 619-4949 Fax (212) 220-2767

e-mail: accounting@recordpress.com

Federal I.D. Number 13-5654060

SOLD TO:

COMPTROLLER-STOP FMCE (SD)
OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT
U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

**WASHINGTON, DC 20401** 

,
INVOICE DATE
11/30/2007
CUSTOMER PHONE
JACKET No. 604-044
CUSTOMER FAX
202 512-0992

PURCHASE ORDER	PRINT ORDER No.	Due Date	NET TERMS	ACCT	PROGRAM No.	JOB NUMBER
B0608	02213	12/30/2007	Net 30	Н	25	20852

#### US vs. VALVERDE-SOLANO

QUANTITY	DESCRIPTION	PRICE	AMOUNT
14	For printing and binding 20 copies of the above referenced 85 pages: BRIEF/APPENDIX		
ч			
20	Printing of 20 Covers @	3.00	60.00
85	36-Pages Text @	2.00	170.00
1	Party Served and Filed @	15.00	15.00
1	Electronic Filing and Service of Brief @	30.00	30.00
	Subtotal	2 400	275.00
	Economic Price Adjustment (11/1/2007-10/31/2008) Subtotal	2.40%	6.60 281.60
1	Postage @	4.60	4.60
		CURTOTAL	#29.4.20
		SUBTOTAL	\$286.20
	WE ACCEPT ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS	TAX (0.0%)	\$0.00
	AND WIRE TRANSFERS	TOTAL	\$286.20
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Thank you for your business.



Refer To Invoice # with Payment

229 West 36th Street, New York, NY 10018

Phone (212) 619-4949 Fax (212) 220-2767

e-mail: accounting@recordpress.com

Federal I.D. Number 13-5654060

SOLD TO:

**COMPTROLLER-STOP FMCE (SD)** OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

**WASHINGTON, DC 20401** 

INVOICE DAT	ΓE
12/16/2008	-
CUSTOMER PH	ONE
JACKET No. 604	-044
CUSTOMER F	AX
202 512-0992	2

PURCHASE ORDER	PRINT ORDER No.	Due Date	NET TERMS	ACCT	PROGRAM No.	JOB NUMBER
B0601	65378	1/15/2009	Net 30	Н	2231	23588

#### **SONG vs. POTTER**

QUANTITY	DESCRIPTION	PRICE	AMOUNT
20 47 12,400 12,400	Covers Printed @ \$0.60 Per Cover Page Numbers Inserted in Table of Contents @ \$0.25 620 Pages Text Printed x 20 Copies @ \$0.035 Per Page Collating, Trimming to Size and Binding Charge Pages @ \$12.25 Per 100 Pages	0.60 0.25 0.035 0.1225	12.00 11.75 434.00 1,519.00
1	Text Page @ \$10.00 Per Page	10.00	10.00 4,371.50
		į.	
g	į .	SUBTOTAL	\$4,371.50
	WE ACCEPT ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS	TAX (0.0%)	\$0.00
	AND WIRE TRANSFERS	TOTAL	\$4,371.50
Thank you	for your business.	MONEY ON ACC'T	\$-4,371.50

Page 2

\$0.00

**BALANCE DUE** 

Filed: 01/07/2015

Refer To Invoice # with Payment

229 West 36th Street, New York, NY 10018

Phone (212) 619-4949

619-4949 Fax (212) 220-2767

e-mail: accounting@recordpress.com

Federal I.D. Number 13-5654060

SOLD TO:

COMPTROLLER-STOP FMCE (SD)

OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

**WASHINGTON, DC 20401** 

INVOICE DATE
3/31/2009
CUSTOMER PHONE
JACKET No. 604-044
CUSTOMER FAX
202 512-0992

						202 312-0772	
PURCHASE ORD	ER PRINT ORDER No.	Due Date	NET TERMS	ACCT	PROGRAM No.	JOB NUMBER	
B0601 73536 4/30/2009 Net 30		Н	2231	24248			
	US vs. LABBE						
QUANTITY	NTITY DESCRIPTION PRICE AMOUNT						
	For typesetting cover of the above referenced: SUPPLEMENTAL APPENDIX United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit						

-	QUANTIT	DESCRIPTION	FRICE	AMOUNT
		For typesetting cover of the above referenced: SUPPLEMENTAL APPENDIX United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit	ı	
	1	Typeset Cover @ \$10.00 Per Page	10.00	10.00 10.00
		·		
			-	
			OUDTOTAL	¢10.00
		*	SUBTOTAL	\$10.00
		WE ACCEPT ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS	TAX (0.0%)	\$0.00
		AND WIRE TRANSFERS	TOTAL	\$10.00
•				

TOTAL	\$10.00
MONEY ON ACC'T	\$-10.00
BALANCE DUE	\$0.00



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Phone (212) 619-4949 Fax (212) 220-2767

e-mail: accounting@recordpress.com

,

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WASHINGTON, DC 20401

INVOICE DATE
5/8/2009
CUSTOMER PHONE
JACKET No. 604-044
CUSTOMER FAX
202 512-0992

PURCHASE ORDER	PRINT ORDER No.	Due Date	NET TERMS	ACCT	PROGRAM No.	JOB NUMBER
B0601	65409	6/7/2009	Net 30	н	2231	24692

#### ADEKOYA v F.B. OF PRISIONS

ADEROTA V.B. OF PRISIONS						
QUANTITY	DESCRIPTION	PRICE	AMOUNT			
	For printing and binding 12 copies of the above					
	referenced 13 pages: LETTER BRIEF					
	United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit					
156	13 Pages Text Printed x 12 Copies @ \$0.035 Per Page	0.035	5.46			
156	Stapling of 13 Pages @ \$12.25 Per 100 Pages	0.1225	19.11			
1	Party Served and Filed @	50.00	50.00			
1	Electronic Filing and Service of Brief @	30.00	30.00			
4	Hours of Authorized Overtime @	95.00	380.00			
	SUB-TOTAL		484.57			
1	Postage @	6.05	6.05			
		u u				
8						
	·	n ar y	اسر			
			a °			
	4					
		SUBTOTAL	\$490.62			
	WE ACCEPT ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS	TAX (0.0%)	\$0.00			
	AND WIRE TRANSFERS	TOTAL	\$490.62			
Thank you	for your business.	MONEY ON ACC'T	\$-490.62			

Filed: 01/07/2015

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INVOICE DATE
6/16/2009
CUSTOMER PHONE
JACKET No. 604-044
CUSTOMER FAX
202 512 0002

PURCHASE ORDER	PRINT ORDER No.	Due Date	NET TERMS	ACCT	PROGRAM No.	JOB NUMBER
B0601	73589	7/16/2009	Net 30	Н	2231	24822

#### US vs. CHOULLAM

QUANTITY	DESCRIPTION	PRICE	AMOUNT						
	For 40 crack and peel cover only of the above referenced: BRIEF United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit								
40	Crack-n-Peel Covers @ SUB-TOTAL	3.00	120.00 120.00						
1	Postage @	1.05	1.05						
	n D	SUBTOTAL	\$121.05						
·	WE ACCEPT ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS	TAX (0.0%)	\$0.00						
	AND WIRE TRANSFERS	TOTAL	\$121.05						
		MONEY ON ACCIT	¢ 121.05						



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**WASHINGTON, DC 20401** 

INVOICE DATE	Ξ
7/30/2009	
CUSTOMER PHO	NE
JACKET No. 604-0	)44
CUSTOMER FA	X
202 512-0992	

PURCHASE ORDE	R	PRINT ORDER No.	Due Date	NET TERMS	ACCT	PROGRAM No.	OGRAM No. <b>JOB NUMBE</b>	
B0601		65426	8/29/2009	Net 30	Н	2231	25135	
	GARLAND-SASH vs. LEWIS							
QUANTITY			DESCRIPTION	ON		PRICE		AMOUNT
30	Un	r correcting 30 covaited States Court of ack-n-Peel Covers	of Appeals fo				3.00	90.00
						SUBTOTAL		\$90.00
						TAX (0.0%)		\$0.00
		WE ACCEPT AL AND W	L MAJOR CRI VIRE TRANSFI			TOTAL		\$90.00

229 West 36th Street, 8th Floor New York, N.Y. 10018-8019

# Invoice

Date	Invoice #
1/23/2006	A68903

Filed: 01/07/2015

Bill To

×		e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e	
	P.O. No.	Terms	Project
	2885-S	Net 30	
Description	Qty	Rate	Amount
RE: Yu Zhu Ni v. John Ashcroft Docket No. 04-5025-ag / Print Order No. 68015 For printing and binding 21 copies of the above Brief for the Respondent:			
Printing of 21 Covers @ Pages Text @ Party Served and Filed @ Electronic Filing and Service of Brief @	1 31 1	63.00 2.10 15.00 30.00	63.00 65.10 15.00 30.00 173.10
Postage @	1	3.85	3.85
		» ·	
	·		
Thank you for your business.		Subtotal	\$176.95
		Sales Tax (0.0%)	\$0.00
		Total	\$176.95
•		Payments/Credits	\$-176.95
		Balance Due	\$0.00

229 West 36th Street, 8th Floor New York, N.Y. 10018-8019

# Invoice

Date	Invoice #
1/30/2006	A68966

Filed: 01/07/2015

Bill To

	P.O. No.	Terms	Project
	2885-S	Net 30	
Description	Qty	Rate	Amount
RE: Surinder Kaur v. U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service Docket No. 03-4806-ag / Print Order No. 01841 For printing and binding 20 copies of the above Brief for the Respondent:			-
Printing of 20 Covers @ Pages Text @ Party Served and Filed @ Electronic Filing and Service of Brief @	1 34 1	60.00 2.00 15.00 30.00	60.00 68.00 15.00 30.00
Postage @	1	4.05	173.00 4.05
	a a		
Thank you for your business.		Subtotal	\$177.05
		Sales Tax (0.0%)	\$0.00
		Total	\$177.05
		Payments/Credits	\$-177.05
		Balance Due	\$0.00

229 West 36th Street, 8th Floor New York, N.Y. 10018-8019

# **Invoice**

Date	Invoice #
1/30/2006	A68967

Bill To

COMPTROLLER - STOP FMCE (ED)
OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MGMT.
US GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE
WASHINGTON, DC 20401

	P.O. No.	Terms	Project
	2885-S	Net 30	
Description	Qty	Rate	Amount
EE: Xu Ping Dong v. Alberto Gonzales Docket No. 04-6049-ag / Print Order No. 68018 For printing and binding 20 copies of the above Brief for the Respondent:  Printing of 20 Covers @ Rages Text @ Rarty Served and Filed @ Relectronic Filing and Service of Brief @ Rostage @	2	1 60.00 9 2.00 1 15.00 1 30.00	60.00 58.00 15.00 30.00 163.00 3.27
	ì		
hank you for your business.		Subtotal	\$166.2
		a and the second	
		Sales Tax (0.0%	\$0.0
		Total	\$166.2
		Payments/Credit	<b>ts</b> \$-166.2
		Balance Due	\$0.0

PAN

229 West 36th Street, 8th Floor New York, N.Y. 10018-8019

# Invoice

Date	Invoice #
1/30/2006	A68968

	P.O. No.	Terms	Project
	2885-S	Net 30	
Description	Qty	Rate	Amount
RE: Gregson Joseph v. Donna E. Shalala Docket No. 05-3348-cv / Print Order No. 68016 For printing and binding 20 copies of the above Brief for the Defendant-Appellee:  Printing of 20 Covers @ Pages Text @ Party Served and Filed @ Electronic Filing and Service of Brief @  Postage @	1 48 1 1	60.00 2.00 15.00 30.00 6.15	60.00 96.00 15.00 30.00 201.00 6.15
Thank you for your business.		Subtotal	\$207.15
		Sales Tax (0.0%)	\$0.00
		Total	\$207.15
	×	Payments/Credits	<b>s</b> \$-207.15
		Balance Due	\$0.00

229 West 36th Street, 8th Floor New York, N.Y. 10018-8019

# Invoice

Date	Invoice #
1/30/2006	A68969

Bill To

OMPTROLLER - STOP FMCE (ED)

	P.O. No.	Terms	Project
	2885-S	Net 30	1
Description	Qty	Rate	Amount
RE: Gregson Joseph v. Donna E. Shalala Docket No. 05-3348-cv / Print Order No. 68017 For printing and binding 13 copies of the above Appendix for the Defendant-Appellee: Printing of 13 Covers @	1	39.00	39.00
Pages Text @	686	1.30	891.86 930.86
hank you for your business.		Subtotal	\$930.8
		Sales Tax (0.0%)	\$0.00
		Total	\$930.86
		Payments/Credits	\$-930.80
		Balance Due	\$0.0

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RECORD PRESS, INC.

229 West 36th Street, 8th Floor New York, N.Y. 10018-8019

# Invoice

Date	Invoice #
1/30/2006	A68970

Filed: 01/07/2015

Bill To

COMPTROLLER - STOP FMCE (ED) OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MGMT. US GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE WASHINGTON, DC 20401

		٠	
	P.O. No.	Terms	Project
	2885-S	Net 30	
Description	Qty	Rate	Amount
RE: USA v. Henry Anati Docket No. 05-3800-cr / Print Order No. 01840 For printing and binding 20 copies of the above Brief for the U.S.:  Printing of 20 Covers @ Pages Text @ Party Served and Filed @ Electronic Filing and Service of Brief @  Postage @	1 29 1 1	60.00 2.00 15.00 30.00 3.27	60.00 58.00 15.00 30.00 163.00 3.27
Thank you for your business.		Subtotal	\$166.27
		Sales Tax (0.0%	\$0.00
		Total	\$166.27
		Payments/Credit	<b>s</b> \$-166.27
		Balance Due	\$0.00

PLAN

229 West 36th Street, 8th Floor New York, N.Y. 10018-8019

# Invoice

Date	Invoice #
1/30/2006	A68971

Filed: 01/07/2015

	P.O. No.		Terms	Project
	2885-S		Net 30	
Description	Qty		Rate	Amount
RE: USA v. Jose Bernal-Ibanos Docket No. 05-0379-cr / Print Order No. 01838 For printing and binding 20 copies of the above Brief for the U.S.: Printing of 20 Covers @ Pages Text @ Party Served and Filed @ Electronic Filing and Service of Brief @ Postage @	3		60.00 2.00 15.00 30.00 3.95	60.00 76.00 15.00 30.00 181.00 3.99
Thank you for your business.		Sub	total	\$184.9
·		Sale	es Tax (0.0%	<b>6)</b> \$0.00
		Tota	al	\$184.9
		Pay	ments/Credi	its \$-184.9
		Bala	ance Due	\$0.0

229 West 36th Street, 8th Floor New York, N.Y. 10018-8019

# **Invoice**

Date	Invoice #
1/30/2006	A68972

Filed: 01/07/2015

	P.O. No.	Terms	Project		
*	2885-S	Net 30			
Description	Qty	Rate	Amount		
RE: USA v. Stanley Burrell Oocket No. 05-2945-cr / Print Order No. 01837 For printing and binding 20 copies of the above Brief for the U.S.:					
rinting of 20 Covers @ lages Text @ larty Served and Filed @ lectronic Filing and Service of Brief @	1 22 1 1	2.00 15.00	30.00		
ostage @	1	2.67	149.00 2.67		
			÷		
	el e				
			٠		
Thank you for your business.		Subtotal	\$151.67		
			\$131.07		
		Sales Tax (0.0%	\$0.00		
		Total	\$151.67		
•		Payments/Credi	its \$-151.67		
		Balance Due	\$0.00		

229 West 36th Street, 8th Floor New York, N.Y. 10018-8019

# Invoice

Date	Invoice #
1/30/2006	A68973

	P.O. No.	To	erms	Project
	2885-S	N	et 30	
Description	Qty	Rat	e	Amount
RE: USA v. Olabiyi Mohammed Blaize Oocket No. 05-2116-cr / Print Order No. 01848 For printing and binding 20 copies of the above Brief for the U.S.:	,			
Printing of 20 Covers @ Pages Text @ Party Served and Filed @ Electronic Filing and Service of Brief @		1 28 1	60.00 2.00 15.00 30.00	60.00 56.00 15.00 30.00 161.00
Postage @		1	4.20	4.20
× ·				
hank you for your business.		Subtotal		\$165.20
		Sales Ta		
		Total	(0.076)	\$165.20
		Payment	ts/Credits	
		Balance		\$0.0

229 West 36th Street, 8th Floor New York, N.Y. 10018-8019

### **Invoice**

Date	Invoice #
1/30/2006	A68974

Filed: 01/07/2015

		×			
	10	P.O. No.		Terms	Project
		2885-S		Net 30	
Description	·	Qty	Τ	Rate	Amount
RE: USA v. Olabiyi Mohammed Blaize Docket No. 05-2116-cr / Print Order No. 01849 For printing and binding 14 copies of the above Government's Appendix:  Printing of 14 Covers @ Pages Text @		1 86		42.00 1.40	42.00 120.40
					162.40
		*			,
Thank you for your business.			S	ubtotal	\$162.40
			s	ales Tax (0.0%	6) · \$0.00
			Т	otal	\$162.40
			Р	ayments/Credi	ts \$-162.40
			В	alance Due	\$0.00

229 West 36th Street, 8th Floor New York, N.Y. 10018-8019

# Invoice

Date	Invoice #
1/30/2006	A68975

	P.O. No.	Terms	Project
	2885-S	Net 30	
Description	Qty	Rate	Amount
RE: USA v. James Argentina Docket No. 05-1560-cr / Print Order No. 01842 For printing and binding 20 copies of the above Brief for the U.S.:			
Printing of 20 Covers @ Pages Text @ Party Served and Filed @ Electronic Filing and Service of Brief @	1 64 1	60.00 2.00 15.00 30.00	60.00 128.00 15.00 30.00 233.00
Postage @	1	5.60	5.60
	¥		
Thank you for your business.		Subtotal	\$238.60
		Sales Tax (0.0%	\$0.00
		Total	\$238.60
		Payments/Credi	ts \$-238.60
		Balance Due	\$0.00

229 West 36th Street, 8th Floor New York, N.Y. 10018-8019

# Invoice

Date	Invoice #
1/30/2006	A68976

Filed: 01/07/2015

Bill To

COMPTROLLER - STOP FMCE (ED) OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MGMT. US GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE WASHINGTON, DC 20401

	P.O. No.	Terms	Project
	2885-S	Net 30	
Description	Qty	Rate	Amount
RE: USA v. James Argentina Docket No. 05-1560-cr / Print Order No. 01843 For printing and binding 14 copies of the above Government's Appendix:			
Printing of 14 Covers @ Pages Text @	1 306	42.00 1.40	42.00 428.40 470.40
		·	
Thank you for your business.		Subtotal	\$470.40
		Sales Tax (0.0%)	\$0.00
		Total	\$470.40
		Payments/Credits	\$-470.40
		Balance Due	\$0.00

PAN

229 West 36th Street, 8th Floor New York, N.Y. 10018-8019

## **Invoice**

Date	Invoice #
1/30/2006	A68977

Bill To

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OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MGMT.
US GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE
WASHINGTON, DC 20401

	P.O. No.	Terms	Project
	2885-S	Net 30	
Description	Qty	Rate	Amount
RE: USA v. Rafael Tejada-Hiliano Docket No. 05-4414-cr / Print Order No. 01845 For printing and binding 20 copies of the above Brief for the U.S.:  Printing of 20 Covers @ Pages Text @ Party Served and Filed @ Electronic Filing and Service of Brief @  Postage @	1 21 1	60.00 2.00 15.00 30.00 2.55	60.00 42.00 15.00 30.00 147.00 2.55
Thank you for your business.		Subtotal	\$149.55
		Sales Tax (0.0%)	\$0.00
		Total	\$149.55
		Payments/Credits	\$-149.55
		Balance Due	\$0.0

TEN NO

229 West 36th Street, 8th Floor New York, N.Y. 10018-8019

# Invoice

Date	Invoice #
1/30/2006	A68978

Bill To

	P.O. No.	Terms	Project
	2885-S	Net 30	<u> </u>
Description	Qty	Rate	Amount
RE: USA v. Christopher Thomas  Docket No. 03-1603 / Print Order No. 01847  For printing and binding 20 copies of the above Brief for the U.S.:			4
Printing of 20 Covers @ Pages Text @ Party Served and Filed @ Electronic Filing and Service of Brief @	1 27 1	60.00 2.00 15.00 30.00	60.00 54.00 15.00 30.00
Postage @	1	3.03	159.00
	,		
		*	
Thank you for your business.		Subtotal	\$162.03
		Sales Tax (0.0%)	\$0.00
		Total	\$162.03
		Payments/Credits	\$-162.03
		Balance Due	\$0.00

229 West 36th Street, 8th Floor New York, N.Y. 10018-8019

# Invoice

Date	Invoice #
1/30/2006	A68979

Filed: 01/07/2015

PERM Bill To

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	P.O. No.	Terms	Project
	2885-S	Net 30	
Description	Qty	Rate	Amount
RE: USA v. William A. Bell Docket No. 05-2008-cr / Print Order No. 01846 For printing and binding 20 copies of the above Brief for the U.S.: Printing of 20 Covers @ Pages Text @	1 27	60.00 2.00	60.00 54.00
Party Served and Filed @ Electronic Filing and Service of Brief @ Postage @	1	15.00 30.00 3.03	15.00 30.00 159.00 3.03
Thank you for your business.		Subtotal	\$162.03
		Sales Tax (0.0%)	\$0.00
		Total	\$162.03
		Payments/Credit	<b>s</b> \$-162.03
	, [	Balance Due	\$0.00

229 West 36th Street, 8th Floor New York, N.Y. 10018-8019

# **Invoice**

Date	Invoice #
1/30/2006	A68980

Filed: 01/07/2015

Bill To

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OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MGMT. US GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE WASHINGTON, DC 20401

e e			
	P.O. No.	Terms	Project
	2885-S	Net 30	
Description	Qty	Rate	Amount
RE: Quang Hui Dong v. Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services Docket No. 03-40478-ag / Print Order No. 01844 For printing and binding 20 copies of the above Brief for the Respondent:  Printing of 20 Covers @ Pages Text @ Party Served and Filed @ Electronic Filing and Service of Brief @  Postage @	1 41 1 1	60.00 2.00 15.00 30.00 4.20	60.00 82.00 15.00 30.00 187.00 4.20
Thank you for your business.	*	Subtotal	\$191.20
		Sales Tax (0.0%)	\$0.00
		Total	\$191.20
		Payments/Credits	\$-191.20
		Balance Due	\$0.00

229 West 36th Street, 8th Floor New York, N.Y. 10018-8019

# Invoice

Date	Invoice #
1/31/2006	A69071

	P.O. No.	Terms '	Project
	2885-S	Net 30	1
Description	Qty	Rate	Amount
RE: USA v. Mohammed Farad Pasha Docket No. 04-0541-cr(L) / Print Order No. 01857 For printing and binding 20 copies of the above Brief for the U.S.:			
rinting of 20 Covers @ Pages Text @ Party Served and Filed @ Electronic Filing and Service of Brief @	32 1 1	60.00 2.00 15.00 30.00	60.00 64.00 15.00 30.00 169.00
Postage @	1	4.05	4.05
*			
		c	
		3	
hank you for your business.		Subtotal	\$173.0
		Sales Tax (0.0%)	\$0.00
		Total	\$173.0
		Payments/Credit	<b>s</b> \$-173.0
		Balance Due	\$0.0

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WASHINGTON, DC 20401

US GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

# Invoice

Date	Invoice #
1/31/2006	A69072

Filed: 01/07/2015

Bill To

COMPTROLLER - STOP FMCE (ED)

OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MGMT.

	P.C	). No.	Terms	Project
	28	2885-S Net 30	Net 30	
Description	Qty		Rate	Amount
RE: Min Xia He v. John Ashcroft Docket No. 05-0133-ag / Print Order No. 01858 For printing and binding 20 copies of the above Brief for the Respondents:  Printing of 20 Covers @ Pages Text @ Party Served and Filed @ Electronic Filing and Service of Brief @ Postage @		1 48 1 1	60.00 2.00 15.00 30.00 4.20	60.00 96.00 15.00 30.00 201.00 4.20
Thank you for your business.			Subtotal	\$205.20
	9		Sales Tax (0.0%)	\$0.00
	r		Total	\$205.20
			Payments/Credits	\$-205.20
	(2) N		Balance Due	\$0.0

229 West 36th Street, 8th Floor New York, N.Y. 10018-8019

# Invoice

Date	Invoice #
1/31/2006	A69073

Filed: 01/07/2015

Bill To

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	P.O. No.	Terms	Project
			Project
	2885-S	Net 30	
Description	Qty	Rate	Amount
RE: Ling-Ling Zhu v. U.S. Department of Justice Docket No. 04-5949-ag / Print Order No. 01856 For printing and binding 20 copies of the above Brief for the Respondent:  Printing of 20 Covers @ Pages Text @ Party Served and Filed @ Electronic Filing and Service of Brief @  Postage @	1 27 1 1	60.00 2.00 15.00 30.00 3.27	60.00 54.00 15.00 30.00 159.00 3.27
Thank you for your business.		Subtotal	\$162.27
		Sales Tax (0.0%)	\$0.00
		Total	\$162.27
		Payments/Credits	\$-162.27
	Γ	Balance Due	\$0.00

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229 West 36th Street, 8th Floor New York, N.Y. 10018-8019

# Invoice

Date	Invoice #
1/31/2006	A69074

Bill To

			T
	P.O. No.	Terms	Project
	2885-S	Net 30	e e
Description	Qty	Rate	Amount
RE: USA v. Ibrahima Diallo Docket No. 05-2472-cr / Print Order No. 01839 For printing and binding 20 copies of the above Brief for the U.S.:			
Printing of 20 Covers @ Pages Text @ Party Served and Filed @ Electronic Filing and Service of Brief @	2 16 1 1	60.00 2.00 15.00 30.00	120.00 32.00 15.00 30.00 197.00
Postage @	1	4.28	4.28
	¥	* 1	
Thank you for your business.		Subtotal	\$201.28
		Sales Tax (0.0%	\$0.00
	,	Total	\$201.28
		Payments/Credit	<b>s</b> \$-201.28
		Balance Due	\$0.00

<u>229 West 36th Street, 8th Floor</u> <u>New York, N.Y. 10018-8019</u>

WASHINGTON, DC 20401

US GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

# **Invoice**

Date	Invoice #
1/31/2006	A69075

Bill To

COMPTROLLER - STOP FMCE (ED)

OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MGMT.

	P.O. No.	Terms	Project
	2885-S	Net 30	
Description	Qty	Rate	Amount
RE: USA v. Ibrahim Qunbar Docket No. 05-4738-cr / Print Order No. 01854 For printing and binding 20 copies of the above Brief for the U.S.:			
Printing of 20 Covers @ Pages Text @ Party Served and Filed @ Blectronic Filing and Service of Brief @	1 15 1 1	60.00 2.00 15.00 30.00	60.00 30.00 15.00 30.00
Postage @	1	5.00	135.00 5.00
		u u	
	,		
	٠		
Thank you for your business.		Subtotal	\$140.00
		Sales Tax (0.0%	\$0.00
	,	Total	\$140.00
	-	Payments/Credit	\$-140.0
		Balance Due	\$0.0

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# Invoice

Date	Invoice #
1/31/2006	A69076

Filed: 01/07/2015

	411
Bill To	
COMPTROLLER - STOP FMCE (ED) OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MGMT. US GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE WASHINGTON, DC 20401	

	P.O. No.	Terms	Project
	2885-S	Net 30	
Description	Qty	Rate	Amount
RE: USA v. Ibrahim Qunbar Docket No. 05-4738-cr / Print Order No. 01855 For printing and binding 14 copies of the above Appendix for the U.S.:			
Printing of 14 Covers @ Pages Text @	1 391	42.00 1.40	42.00 547.40
		*	589.40
	•		
		÷	
		2	
hank you for your business.		Subtotal	\$589.40
-		Sales Tax (0.0%)	\$0.00
s.		Total	\$589.40
		Payments/Credits	\$-589.40
		Balance Due	\$0.00

229 West 36th Street, 8th Floor New York, N.Y. 10018-8019

# Invoice

Date	Invoice #
1/31/2006	A69077

Filed: 01/07/2015

Bill To

COMPTROLLER - STOP FMCE (ED)
OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MGMT.
US GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE
WASHINGTON, DC 20401

	¥		
	P.O. No.	Terms	Project
•	2885-S	Net 30	
Description	Qty	Rate	Amount
RE: USA v. Mabel Salinas De Pereira Docket No. 05-4497-cr / Print Order No. 01853 For printing and binding 20 copies of the above Brief for the U.S.:  Printing of 20 Covers @ Pages Text @ Party Served and Filed @ Electronic Filing and Service of Brief @  Postage @	1 18 1 1	60.00 2.00 15.00 30.00 2.31	60.00 36.00 15.00 30.00 141.00 2.31
Thank you for your business.		Subtotal	\$143.31
		Sales Tax (0.0%)	\$0.00
		Total	\$143.31
		Payments/Credits	\$-143.31
		Balance Due	\$0.00

PERM

229 West 36th Street, 8th Floor New York, N.Y. 10018-8019

# Invoice

Date	Invoice #
1/31/2006	A69078

Filed: 01/07/2015

F	
Bill To	
COMPTROLLER - STOP FMCE (ED) OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MGMT.	
US GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE WASHINGTON, DC 20401	*

	P.O. No.	Terms	Project
	2885-S	Net 30	
Description	Qty	Rate	Amount
RE: Fa Gui Ni v. Bd. of Immigration Appeals Docket No. 04-3787-ag / Print Order No. 01850 For printing and binding 20 copies of the above Brief for the U.S.:  Printing of 20 Covers @ Pages Text @ Party Served and Filed @ Electronic Filing and Service of Brief @  Postage @	1 30 1 1	60.00 2.00 15.00 30.00 4.05	60.00 60.00 15.00 30.00 165.00 4.05
Thank you for your business.		Subtotal	\$169.05
		Sales Tax (0.0%)	\$0.00
		Total	\$169.05
		Payments/Credits	\$-169.05
		Balance Due	\$0.00

229 West 36th Street, 8th Floor New York, N.Y. 10018-8019

# **Invoice**

Date	Invoice #			
2/10/2006	A69084			

Filed: 01/07/2015

Bill To

	P.O. No.	Terms	Project
	2885-S	Net 30	
Description	Qty	Rate	Amount
RE: Hong Sheng Huang v. Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services Docket No. 04-4161-ag / Print No. 01861 For printing and binding 20 copies of the above Brief for the Respondent:  Printing of 20 Covers @ Pages Text @ Party Served and Filed @ Electronic Filing and Service of Brief @  Postage @	1 44 1 1	60.00 2.00 15.00 30.00 4.20	60.00 88.00 15.00 30.00 193.00 4.20
Thank you for your business.		Subtotal	\$197.20
		Sales Tax (0.0%)	\$0.00
		Total	\$197.20
		Payments/Credits	\$-197.20
		Balance Due	\$0.0

229 West 36th Street, 8th Floor New York, N.Y. 10018-8019

# **Invoice**

Date	Invoice #
2/10/2006	A69085

Filed: 01/07/2015

		P.O. No.		Terms	Project
		2885-S		Net 30	
Description		Qty		Rate	Amount
RE: Shay Liberman v. Jo Anne B. Barnhart Docket No. 05-5591-cv / Print No. 68021 For printing and binding 20 copies of the above Brief for the Defendant-Appellee: Printing of 20 Covers @ Pages Text @ Party Served and Filed @ Electronic Filing and Service of Brief @  Postage @		2.	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	60.00 2.00 15.00 30.00 4.20	60.00 50.00 15.00 30.00 155.00 4.20
Thank you for your business.			S	Subtotal	\$159.20
	2		S	ales Tax (0.0%	\$0.00
		i.	Т	otal	\$159.20
,			Р	ayments/Credi	ts \$-159.20
			В	Balance Due	\$0.00

229 West 36th Street, 8th Floor New York, N.Y. 10018-8019

# Invoice

Date	Invoice #
2/10/2006	A69086

Bill To

COMPTROLLER - STOP FMCE (ED) OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MGMT. US GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE WASHINGTON, DC 20401

	P.O. I	No.	Terms	Project
	2885	-S	Net 30	
Description	Qty		Rate	Amount
RE: Shay Liberman v. Jo Anne B. Barnhart Docket No. 05-5591-cv / Print No. 68022 For printing and binding 18 copies of the above Appendix for Defendant-Appellee: Printing of 18 Covers @ Pages Text @		1 170	54.00 1.80	54.00 306.00 360.00
Thank you for your business.		<u> </u>	Subtotal	\$360.00
			Sales Tax (0.0%)	\$0.00
			Total	\$360.00
			Payments/Credits	\$ \$-360.00
a .			Balance Due	\$0.0

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229 West 36th Street, 8th Floor New York, N.Y. 10018-8019

# Invoice

Date	Invoice #
2/10/2006	A69087

Filed: 01/07/2015

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	P.O. No.	Terms	Project
	2885-S	Net 30	
Description	Qty	Rate	Amount
RE: Merlicka & Kaloshi v. US Department of Justice Docket No. 05-5443-ag(L) / Print No. 68020 For printing and binding 20 copies of the above Brief for the Respondent:			
Printing of 20 Covers @ Pages Text @	1 47	60.00 2.00	60.00 94.00
Party Served and Filed @	1	15.00	15.00
Electronic Filing and Service of Brief @	i	30.00	30.00
Postage @	1	4.05	199.00 4.05
Thank you for your business.		Subtotal	\$203.05
		Sales Tax (0.0%)	\$0.00
		Total	\$203.05
		Payments/Credit	<b>s</b> \$-203.05
		Balance Due	\$0.00

229 West 36th Street, 8th Floor New York, N.Y. 10018-8019

# Invoice

Date	Invoice #
2/10/2006	A69088

Bill To	49 1
COMPTROLLER - STOP FMCE (ED) OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MGMT. US GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE WASHINGTON, DC 20401	<b>3</b>

	P.O. No.	Terms	Project
	2885-S	Net 30	
Description	Qty	Rate	Amount
RE: Azmond Ali v. John Ashcroft Docket No. 04-4584-ag / Print No. 68019 For printing and binding 20 copies of the above Brief for the Respondent:  Printing of 20 Covers @ Pages Text @ Party Served and Filed @ Electronic Filing and Service of Brief @  Postage @		1 60.00 34 2.00 1 15.00 1 30.00 1 4.20	60.00 68.00 15.00 30.00 173.00 4.20
Thank you for your business.		Subtotal	\$177.20
		Sales Tax (0.0%)	\$0.00
		Total	\$177.20
		Payments/Credits	<b>s</b> \$-177.20
		Balance Due	\$0.00

229 West 36th Street, 8th Floor New York, N.Y. 10018-8019

WASHINGTON, DC 20401

# Invoice

Date	Invoice #
2/10/2006	A69089

	P.O. No.	Terms	Project
	2885-S	Net 30	
Description	Qty	Rate	Amount
RE: USA v. Everton Spence Docket No. 05-3038-cr / Print No. 01859 For printing and binding 20 copies of the above Brief for the U.S.: Printing of 20 Covers @ Pages Text @ Party Served and Filed @ Electronic Filing and Service of Brief @ Postage @	1, 19 1, 1	60.00 2.00 15.00 30.00 3.03	60.00 38.00 15.00 30.00 143.00 3.03
Thank you for your business.		Subtotal	\$146.03
		Sales Tax (0.0%)	\$0.00
9	ſ	Total	\$146.03
	-	Payments/Credit	<b>s</b> \$-146.03
		Balance Due	\$0.00

229 West 36th Street, 8th Floor New York, N.Y. 10018-8019

# Invoice

Date	Invoice #
2/10/2006	A69090

Filed: 01/07/2015

Bill To

COMPTROLLER - STOP FMCE (ED)
OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MGMT.
US GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE
WASHINGTON, DC 20401

	P.O. No.	Terms	Project
	2885-S	Net 30	***************************************
Description	Qty	Rate	Amount
RE: USA v. Everton Spence Docket No. 05-3038-cr / Print No. 01860 For printing and binding 13 copies of the above Government's Appendix: Printing of 13 Covers @ Pages Text @	1 11	39.00	39.00 14.30 53.30
Thank you for your business.		Subtotal	\$53.30
		Sales Tax (0.0%)	\$0.00
		Total	\$53.30
	-	Payments/Credits	\$ \$-53.30
		Balance Due	\$0.0

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229 West 36th Street, 8th Floor New York, N.Y. 10018-8019

# Invoice

Date	Invoice #
2/16/2006	A69146

Filed: 01/07/2015

Bill To

	P.O. No.	Terms	Project
	2885-S	Net 30	
Description	Qty	Rate	Amount
RE: USA v. Gerard Cavera Docket No. 05-4591-cr(L) / Print Order No. 01862 For printing and binding 20 copies of the above Brief for the U.S.: Printing of 20 Covers @ Pages Text @ Party Served and Filed @ Electronic Filing and Service of Brief @ Postage @	1 31 1 1	60.00 2.00 15.00 30.00 4.05	60.00 62.00 15.00 30.00 167.00 4.05
Charle you for your business			· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Thank you for your business.		Subtotal	\$171.05
		Sales Tax (0.0%)	\$0.00
		Total	\$171.05
		Payments/Credits	\$-171.05
	-	Balance Due	\$0.00

229 West 36th Street, 8th Floor New York, N.Y. 10018-8019

# Invoice

Date	Invoice #
2/16/2006	A69147

Filed: 01/07/2015

	P.O. No.	Terms	Project
	2885-S	Net 30	
Description	Qty	Rate	Amount
RE: Mandel Fogel v. Secretary of the Air Force Docket No. 05-0470-cv) / Print Order No. 68023 For printing and binding 20 copies of the above Memorandum for the Defendants-Appellees:  Printing of 20 Covers @ Pages Text @ Party Served and Filed @ Electronic Filing and Service of Brief @  Postage @	1 12 1 1	60.00 2.00 15.00 30.00 3.27	60.00 24.00 15.00 30.00 129.00 3.27
Thank you for your business.		Subtotal	\$132.27
P		Sales Tax (0.0%)	\$0.00
		Total	\$132.27
		Payments/Credits	\$-132.2
		Balance Due	\$0.0

229 West 36th Street, 8th Floor New York, N.Y. 10018-8019

# Invoice

Date	Invoice #
2/16/2006	A69148

Filed: 01/07/2015

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Bill To	40 1
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		P.O. No.		Terms	Project
		2885-S		Net 30	
Description		Qty	Ra	ate	Amount
RE: Mandel Fogel v. Secretary of the Air Force Docket No. 05-0470-cv) / Print Order No. 68024 For printing and binding 13 copies of the above Appendix for the Defendants-Appellees:	7-				
Printing of 13 Covers @ Pages Text @		64		39.00 1.30	39.00 83.20 122.20
				*	
					*
· ·					
	,				
Thank you for your business.			Subtota	ıl	\$122.20
			Sales T	ax (0.0%	<b>5)</b> \$0.00
		*	Total		\$122,20
			Paymer	nts/Credi	ts \$-122.20
			Balance	e Due	\$0.00

229 West 36th Street, 8th Floor New York, N.Y. 10018-8019

### Invoice

Date	Invoice #
2/23/2006	A69186

Filed: 01/07/2015

Bill To

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	P.O. No.	Terms	Project
	2885-S	Net 30	<del>, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , </del>
Description	Qty	Rate	Amount
RE: Danilo Ortiz v. Alberto R. Gonzales Docket No. 04-1477-ag / Print Order No. 68025 For printing and binding 20 copies of the above Brief for the Respondent:  Printing of 20 Covers @ Pages Text @ Party Served and Filed @ Electronic Filing and Service of Brief @  Postage @	1 34 1 1	60.00 2.00 15.00 30.00 4.05	60.00 68.00 15.00 30.00 173.00 4.05
Thank you for your business.		Subtotal	\$177.05
		Sales Tax (0.0%)	\$0.00
•		Total	\$177.05
		Payments/Credits	\$-177.05
		Balance Due	\$0.00

229 West 36th Street, 8th Floor New York, N.Y. 10018-8019

### Invoice

Date	Invoice #
2/28/2006	A69242

Filed: 01/07/2015

Bill To

COMPTROLLER - STOP FMCE (ED)

	P.O. No.	Terms	Project
	2885-S	Net 30	
Description	Qty	Rate	Amount
RE: Heng Qiu Ruan v. Alberto Gonzales Docket No. 03-40315-ag / Print No. 68026 For printing and binding 20 copies of the above Brief for the Respondent:  Printing of 20 Covers @ Pages Text @ Party Served and Filed @ Electronic Filing and Service of Brief @  Postage @	2	1 60.00 6 2.00 1 15.00 1 30.00 1 3.03	60.00 52.00 15.00 30.00 157.00 3.03
Thank you for your business.		Subtotal	\$160.03
		Sales Tax (0.0%	\$0.00
		′Total	\$160.03
		Payments/Credi	ts \$-160.03
		Balance Due	\$0.00

229 West 36th Street, 8th Floor New York, N.Y. 10018-8019

### Invoice

Date	Invoice #
3/10/2006	A69347

Filed: 01/07/2015

· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	P.O. No.	Terms	Project
	2214-S	Net 30	
Description	Qty	Rate	Amount
RE: Li Juan Zhao v. U.S. Department of Justice Docket No. 04-3862-ag / Prinit Order No. 01863 For printing and binding 20 copies of the above Brief for the Respondent:			,
Printing of 20 Covers @ Pages Text @ Party Served and Filed @ Electronic Filing and Service of Brief @	1 20 1 1	60.00 2.00 15.00 30.00	60.00 40.00 15.00 30.00 145.00
Postage @	1	2.55	2.55
hank you for your business.		Subtotal	\$147.55
		Sales Tax (0.0%)	\$0.00
an e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e		Total	\$147.55
		Payments/Credit	<b>s</b> \$-147.55
		Balance Due	\$0.00

229 West 36th Street, 8th Floor New York, N.Y. 10018-8019

### Invoice

Date	Invoice #
3/10/2006	A69348

	P.O. No	o.	Terms	Project
	2214-S	S	Net 30	
Description	Qty		Rate	Amount
RE: Yu Yong Zheng v. Alberto R. Gonzales Docket No. 04-4489-ag / Print Order No. 01865 For printing and binding 20 copies of the above Brief for the Respondent:  Printing of 20 Covers @ Pages Text @ Party Served and Filed @ Electronic Filing and Service of Brief @  Postage @		1 37 1 1	60.00 2.00 15.00 30.00 4.05	60.00 74.00 15.00 30.00 179.00 4.05
Thank you for your business.		Su	ıbtotal	\$183.05
3		Sa	les Tax (0.0%)	\$0.00
		То	tal	\$183.05
		Pa	yments/Credit	<b>s</b> \$-183.0
		Ва	lance Due	\$0.0

229 West 36th Street, 8th Floor New York, N.Y. 10018-8019

### **Invoice**

Date	Invoice #
3/10/2006	A69349

	P.O. No.	Terms	Project
	2214-S	Net 30	
Description	Qty	Rate	Amount
RE: USA v. Jacob Zedner Docket No. 05-5896-cr / Print Order No. 01867 For printing and binding 20 copies of the above Brief for the U.S.: Printing of 20 Covers @	1	60.00	60.00
Pages Text @ Party Served and Filed @ Electronic Filing and Service of Brief @	15 1 1	2.00 15.00 30.00	30.00 15.00 30.00 135.00
Postage @		2.07	2.07
		*	
•			
×			
Thank you for your business.		Subtotal	\$137.07
		Sales Tax (0.0%	\$0.00
		Total	\$137.07
•		Payments/Credi	ts \$-137.07
		Balance Due	\$0.00

229 West 36th Street, 8th Floor New York, N.Y. 10018-8019

### Invoice

Date	Invoice #
3/10/2006	A69350

Filed: 01/07/2015

	عال				
		P.O. No.		Terms	Project
		2214-S		Net 30	
Description		Qty	T	Rate	Amount
RE: Mohammed Khalil v. USA Docket No. 05-4426-cr(L) / Print Order No. 01866 For printing and binding 20 copies of the above Brief for the U.S.:					
rinting of 20 Covers @ 'ages Text @ 'arty Served and Filed @ 'clectronic Filing and Service of Brief @		6	1 6 1 1	60.00 2.00 15.00 30.00	60.00 132.00 15.00 30.00 237.00
Postage @			1	4.20	4.20
	341			v	
Chank you for your business.			s	ubtotal	\$241.20
			S	ales Tax (0.0%	\$0.00
			Т	otal	\$241,20
•	ž		P	ayments/Credit	ts \$-241.20
			В	alance Due	\$0.0

229 West 36th Street, 8th Floor New York, N.Y. 10018-8019

### Invoice

Date 、	Invoice #
3/10/2006	A69351

Filed: 01/07/2015

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	P.O. No.	Terms	Project
	2214-S	Net 30	
Description	Qty	Rate	Amount
RE: Ibinga Bertin v. USA Docket No. 05-4503-cv / Print Order No. 68027 For printing and binding 21 copies of the above Brief for the Defendant-Appellee:  Printing of 21 Covers @ Pages Text @ Party Served and Filed @ Electronic Filing and Service of Brief @	1 20 1	63.00 2.10 15.00 30.00	63.00 42.00 15.00 30.00 150.00
Thank you for your business.		Subtotal	\$150.00
		Sales Tax (0.0%)	\$0.00
		Total	\$150.00
		Payments/Credits	\$-150.00
		Balance Due	\$0.00

229 West 36th Street, 8th Floor New York, N.Y. 10018-8019

### Invoice

Date	Invoice #
3/10/2006	A69352

Filed: 01/07/2015

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	P.O. N	lo.	Terms	Project
	2214-	S	Net 30	
Description	Qty		Rate	Amount
RE: Ibinga Bertin v. USA Docket No. 05-4503-cv / Print Order No. 68028 For printing and binding 15 copies of the above Appendix for the Defendant-Appellee:				
Printing of 15 Covers @ Pages Text @		1 67	45.00 1.50	45.00 100.50 145.50
Thank you for your business.			Subtotal	\$145.50
			Sales Tax (0.0%	6) \$0.00
		Ţ.	Total	\$145.50
			Payments/Credi	its \$-145.5
			Balance Due	\$0.0

229 West 36th Street, 8th Floor New York, N.Y. 10018-8019

# Invoice

Date	Invoice #
3/31/2006	A69566

Filed: 01/07/2015

Bill To	49 3
COMPTROLLER - STOP FMCE (ED) OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MGMT. US GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE WASHINGTON, DC 20401	<b>9</b>

	P.O. No.	Terms	Project
	2214-S	Net 30	
Description	Qty	Rate	Amount
RE: Tarsem Lal Vasudeva v. Board of Immigration Docket No. 05-3991-ag / Print Order No. 68030 For printing and binding 20 copies of the above Brief for the Respondent:			
Printing of 20 Covers @ Pages Text @ Party Served and Filed @ Electronic Filing and Service of Brief @	30	1 60.00 5 2.00 1 15.00 1 30.00	60.00 72.00 15.00 30.00
Postage @	:	1 4.05	177.00 4.05
·			
ę			
Thank you for your business.	я	Subtotal	\$181.05
		Sales Tax (0.0%)	\$0.00
		Total	\$181.05
		Payments/Credits	\$-181.05
		Balance Due	\$0.00

<u>229 West 36th Street, 8th Floor</u> <u>New York, N.Y. 10018-8019</u>

# **Invoice**

Date	Invoice #
3/31/2006	A69567

	P.O. No.	Terms	Project
	2214-S	Net 30	
Description	Qty	Rate	Amount
RE: Vincent Lopez v. USA Docket No. 04-5095-pr / Print Order No. 01869 For printing and binding 20 copies of the above Brief and Appendix for the United States:  Printing of 20 Covers @ Pages Text @ Party Served and Filed @ Electronic Filing and Service of Brief @  Postage @	1 35 1 1	60.00 2.00 15.00 30.00 4.05	60.00 70.00 15.00 30.00 175.00 4.05
Thank you for your business.		Subtotal	\$179.05
		Sales Tax (0.0%)	\$0.00
	Γ	Total	\$179.05
No.		Payments/Credits	\$-179.05
		Balance Due	\$0.00

229 West 36th Street, 8th Floor New York, N.Y. 10018-8019

### Invoice

Date	Invoice #
3/31/2006	A69568

Filed: 01/07/2015

	P.O. No.	Terms	Project
	2214-S	Net 30	
Description	Qty	Rate	Amount
RE: USA v. Michael Singletary Docket No. 05-5332-cr / Print Order No. 01875 For printing and binding 20 copies of the above Brief and Addendum for the United States:		,	a
Printing of 20 Covers @ Pages Text @ Party Served and Filed @ Electronic Filing and Service of Brief @	1 43 1 1	60.00 2.00 15.00 30.00	60.00 86.00 15.00 30.00 191.00
Postage @	1	4.20	4.20
Thank you for your business.		Subtotal	\$195.20
		Sales Tax (0.0%)	\$0.00
		Total	\$195.20
		Payments/Credits	\$-195.20
		Balance Due	\$0.0

229 West 36th Street, 8th Floor New York, N.Y. 10018-8019

# Invoice

Date	Invoice #
3/31/2006	A69569

Filed: 01/07/2015

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Bill To	49 1
COMPTROLLER - STOP FMCE (ED) OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MGMT. US GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE WASHINGTON, DC 20401	
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	P.O. No.	Terms	Project
	2214-S	Net 30	
Description	Qty	Rate	Amount
RE: Ali Cherif Dehbi v. INS Docket No. 05-5-5546-ag / Print Order No. 01878 For printing and binding 20 copies of the above Brief for the Respondent:			
Printing of 20 Covers @ Pages Text @ Party Served and Filed @ Electronic Filing and Service of Brief @	1 28 1 1	60.00 2.00 15.00 30.00	60.00 56.00 15.00 30.00 161.00
Postage @	1	3.27	3.27
Thank you for your business.			
Triank you for your business.		Subtotal	\$164.27
		Sales Tax (0.0%)	\$0.00
	ſ	Total	\$164.27
	Ī	Payments/Credits	\$-164.27
•		Balance Due	\$0.00

229 West 36th Street, 8th Floor New York, N.Y. 10018-8019

# Invoice

Date	Invoice #
3/31/2006	A69570

Filed: 01/07/2015

Bill To

COMPTROLLER - STOP FMCE (ED)

OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MOME

OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MGMT. US GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE WASHINGTON, DC 20401

	P.O. No.	Terms	Project
	2214-S	Net 30	
Description	Qty	Rate .	Amount
RE: Zani Elezovski v. Secretary of Dept. of Homeland Security Docket No. 05-0450ag / Print Order No. 01874 For printing and binding 20 copies of the above Brief for the Respondent:  Printing of 20 Covers @ Pages Text @ Party Served and Filed @ Electronic Filing and Service of Brief @  Postage @	1 38 1 1	60.00 2.00 15.00 30.00 4.05	60.00 76.00 15.00 30.00 181.00 4.05
Thank you for your business.		Subtotal	\$185.05
		Sales Tax (0.0%)	\$0.00
		Total	\$185.05
		Payments/Credits	\$-185.05
		Balance Due	\$0.00

229 West 36th Street, 8th Floor New York, N.Y. 10018-8019

### **Invoice**

Date	Invoice #
3/31/2006	A69571

Filed: 01/07/2015

	P.O. No.	Terms	Project
	2214-S	Net 30	
Description	Qty	Rate	Amount
RE: Fatmira Veljovic v. Alberto Gonzales Docket No. 04-5909-ag / Print Order No. 01873 For printing and binding 20 copies of the above Brief for the Respondent:  Printing of 20 Covers @ Pages Text @ Party Served and Filed @ Electronic Filing and Service of Brief @  Postage @	1 44 1 1	60.00 2.00 15.00 30.00 4.20	60.00 88.00 15.00 30.00 193.00 4.20
Thank you for your business.		Subtotal	\$197.20
		Sales Tax (0.0%	\$0.00
		Total	\$197.20
		Payments/Credi	ts \$-197.20
		Balance Due	\$0.00

229 West 36th Street, 8th Floor New York, N.Y. 10018-8019

### Invoice

Date	Invoice #
3/31/2006	A69572

Filed: 01/07/2015

Bill To

COMPTROLLER - STOP FMCE (ED)
OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MGMT.
US GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE
WASHINGTON, DC 20401

		P.O. No.	Terms	Project
		2214-S	Net 30	
Description		Qty	Rate	Amount
RE: Yosep Rihi v. Alberto Gonzales Docket No. 05-4533-ag / Print Order No. 01864 For printing and binding 20 copies of the above Brief for the Respondent: Printing of 20 Covers @ Pages Text @ Party Served and Filed @ Electronic Filing and Service of Brief @ Postage @		1 29 1 1	60.00 2.00 15.00 30.00 4.05	58.00 15.00 30.00 163.00
Thank you for your business.	4		Subtotal	\$167.05
			Sales Tax (0.09	%) \$0.00
	2		Total	\$167.05
			Payments/Cred	its \$-167.05
			Balance Due	\$0.0

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229 West 36th Street, 8th Floor New York, N.Y. 10018-8019

### **Invoice**

Date	Invoice #
3/31/2006	A69573

Bill To

	P.O. No.	Terms	Project
	2214-S	Net 30	
Description	Qty	Rate	Amount
RE: USA v. Gady Pichardo Hilario Docket No. 05-3972-cr / Print Order No. 01881 For printing and binding 20 copies of the above Brief for the United States:  Printing of 20 Covers @ Pages Text @ Party Served and Filed @ Electronic Filing and Service of Brief @  Postage @	1 43 1 1	60.00 2.00 15.00 30.00 4.20	60.00 86.00 15.00 30.00 191.00 4.20
Thank you for your business.		Subtotal	\$195.20
		Sales Tax (0.0%)	\$0.00
Н		Total	\$195.20
		Payments/Credits	\$-195.20
		Balance Due	\$0.00

229 West 36th Street, 8th Floor New York, N.Y. 10018-8019

### **Invoice**

	Date	Invoice #
_	3/31/2006	A69574

	P.O. No.	Terms	Project
	2214-S	Net 30	
Description	Qty	Rate	Amount
RE: USA v. James Vargo Docket No. 05-0617-cr / Print Order No. 01871 For printing and binding 20 copies of the above Brief for the United States:  Printing of 20 Covers @ Pages Text @ Party Served and Filed @ Electronic Filing and Service of Brief @  Postage @	1 86 1 1	60.00 2.00 15.00 30.00 5.60	60.00 172.00 15.00 30.00 277.00 5.60
Thank you for your business.		Subtotal	\$282.60
		Sales Tax (0.0%	\$0.00
		Total	\$282,60
		Payments/Credit	\$-282.60
		Balance Due	\$0.00

229 West 36th Street, 8th Floor New York, N.Y. 10018-8019

#### Invoice

Date	Invoice #
3/31/2006	A69575

Filed: 01/07/2015

	P.O. No.	Terms	Project
	2214-S	Net 30	
Description	Qty	Rate	Amount
RE: USA v. James Vargo Docket No. 05-0617-cr / Print Order No. 01872 For printing and binding 14 copies of the above The Government's Appendix:			·
rinting of 14 Covers @ lages Text @	1 305	<b>42.00</b> 1.40	42.00 427.00 469.00
	ų		
			A
hank you for your business.		Subtotal	\$469.00
		Sales Tax (0.0%	\$0.00
		Total	\$469.0
		Payments/Credit	ts \$-469.0
	ľ	Balance Due	\$0.0

229 West 36th Street, 8th Floor New York, N.Y. 10018-8019

# **Invoice**

Date	Invoice #
3/31/2006	A69578

Filed: 01/07/2015

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Bill To	49 4
COMPTROLLER - STOP FMCE (ED) OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MGMT. US GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE WASHINGTON, DC 20401	

	Г				T
		P.O. No. 2214-S		Terms	Project
				Net 30	
Description		Qty		Rate	Amount
RE: USA v. Gady Pichardo Hilario Docket No. 05-3972-cr / Print Order No. 01882 For printing and binding 14 copies of the above Appendix for the United States:  Printing of 14 Covers @ Pages Text @		1 55		42.00 1.40	42.00 77.00 119.00
Thank you for your business.			Sul	ototal	\$119.00
			Sal	es Tax (0.0%	5) \$0.00
			Tot		\$119.00
		-	Pay	yments/Credi	ts \$-119.00
		F	Bal	lance Due	\$0.00

229 West 36th Street, 8th Floor New York, N.Y. 10018-8019

### **Invoice**

Date	Invoice #
4/12/2006	A69607

Filed: 01/07/2015

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COMPTROLLER - STOP FMCE (ED) OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MGMT. US GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE WASHINGTON, DC 20401

			T T	
	P.O. N	lo.	Terms	Project
	2231-	·S	Net 30	
Description	Qty		Rate	Amount
RE: Oleg Mashkov v. Alberto Gonzales Oocket No. 05-4148-cv / Print Order No. 68035 For printing and binding 21 copies of the above Brief for the despondent:				
rinting of 21 Covers @ ages Text @	R*	1 58	63.00 2.10	63.00 121.80
arty Served and Filed @ lectronic Filing and Service of Brief @	Ĭ.	1 1	15.00 30.00	15.00 30.00 229.80
ostage @		1	4.20	4.20
e ,		2		
			7	
hank you for your business.		s	ubtotal	\$234.00
		S	ales Tax (0.0%)	\$0.00
•		T	otal	\$234.00
		P	ayments/Credits	\$-234.0
		В	alance Due	\$0.0

PRIM

229 West 36th Street, 8th Floor New York, N.Y. 10018-8019

### Invoice

Date	Invoice #
4/12/2006	A69617

Filed: 01/07/2015

Bill To

COMPTROLLER - STOP FMCE (ED)
OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MGMT.
US GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE
WASHINGTON, DC 20401

			£
•	P.O. No.	Terms	Project
	2214-S	Net 30	
Description	Qty	Rate	Amount
RE: Kai You Jing v. Alberto R. Gonzales Docket No. 05-3517-ag/ Print Order No. 01894 For printing and binding 20 copies of the above Brief for the Respondent:  Printing of 20 Covers @ Pages Text @ Party Served and Filed @ Electronic Filing and Service of Brief @  Postage @	1 41 1 1	60.00 2.00 15.00 30.00 4.20	60.00 82.00 15.00 30.00 187.00 4.20
Thank you for your business.		Subtotal	\$191.20
		Sales Tax (0.0%	\$0.00
		Total	\$191.20
		Payments/Credit	<b>s</b> \$-191.20
	*	Balance Due	\$0.00

229 West 36th Street, 8th Floor New York, N.Y. 10018-8019

### Invoice

Date	Invoice #
4/12/2006	A69618

Filed: 01/07/2015

Bill To

· ·			
	P.O. No.	Terms	Project
	2214-S	Net 30	
Description	Qty	Rate	Amount
RE: Muhammad Iqbal v. Alberto R. Gonzales Docket No. 04-6606-ag/ Print Order No. 01893 For printing and binding 20 copies of the above Brief for the Respondent:  Printing of 20 Covers @ Pages Text @ Party Served and Filed @ Relectronic Filing and Service of Brief @ Postage @	1 36 1 1	60.00 2.00 15.00 30.00 4.05	60.00 72.00 15.00 30.00 177.00 4.05
Thank you for your business.		Subtotal	\$181.05
		Sales Tax (0.0%)	\$0.00
	-	Total	\$181.03
	<u> </u>	Payments/Credits	\$-181.0
	"	Balance Due	\$0.0

229 West 36th Street, 8th Floor New York, N.Y. 10018-8019

### **Invoice**

Date	Invoice #
4/21/2006	A69645

Bill To

COMPTROLLER - STOP FMCE (ED) OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MGMT. US GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE WASHINGTON, DC 20401

	P.O.	No.	Terms	Project
	2214	-S	Net 30	
Description	Qty		Rate	Amount
RE: USA v. Bernard Olushina Docket No. 03-1517 / Print Order No. 01888 For printing and binding 20 copies of the above Brief for the U.S.:			(0.00	(0.00
Printing of 20 Covers @ Pages Text @ Party Served and Filed @ Electronic Filing and Service of Brief @		1 22 1 1	60.00 2.00 15.00 30.00	60.00 44.00 15.00 30.00
Postage @		1	2.79	149.00 2.79
			×	
Thank you for your business.		5	Subtotal	\$151.79
		5	Sales Tax (0.0%	\$0.00
*		7	Γotal	\$151.79
		F	Payments/Credi	ts \$-151.79
		E	Balance Due	\$0.00

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229 West 36th Street, 8th Floor New York, N.Y. 10018-8019

### **Invoice**

Date	Invoice #
4/21/2006	A69652

Filed: 01/07/2015

Bill To

COMPTROLLER - STOP FMCE (ED) OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MGMT. US GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE WASHINGTON, DC 20401

	P.O. No.	Terms	Project
	2214-S	Net 30	
Description	Qty	Rate	Amount
RE: IHM Ajantha Badara Herath v. Alberto Gonzales Docket No. 04-4776-ag / Print Order No. 68039 For printing and binding 20 copies of the above Brief for the Respondent:			
Printing of 20 Covers @ Pages Text @ Party Served and Filed @ Electronic Filing and Service of Brief @	4.	2.00	60.00 86.00 15.00 30.00 191.00
Postage @	j	4.20	4.20
Thank you for your business.		Subtotal	\$195.20
		Sales Tax (0.0%	\$0.00
		Total	\$195.20
		Payments/Credit	<b>s</b> \$-195.20
E		Balance Due	\$0.00

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229 West 36th Street, 8th Floor New York, N.Y. 10018-8019

### **Invoice**

Date	Invoice #
4/25/2006	A69661

•	P.O. No.	Terms	Project
*	2214-S	Net 30	
Description	Qty	Rate	Amount
RE: Binder & Binder, P.C. v. Jo Anne B. Barnhart Docket No. 05-6794-cv / Print Order No. 68040 For printing and binding 20 copies of the above Brief for the Defendant-Appellee:		. ,	
Printing of 20 Covers @ Pages Text @ Party Served and Filed @ Electronic Filing and Service of Brief @	1 48 1 1	15.00	60.00 96.00 15.00 30.00
Postage @	1	4.20	201.00 4.20
Thank you for your business.		Subtotal	\$205.20
		Sales Tax (0.0%	\$0.00
	. [	Total	\$205.20
		Payments/Credi	ts \$-205.20
	Ī	Balance Due	\$0.00

229 West 36th Street, 8th Floor New York, N.Y. 10018-8019

# **Invoice**

Date	Invoice #
4/28/2006	A69766

Filed: 01/07/2015

Bill To

COMPTROLLER - STOP FMCE (ED) OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MGMT. US GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE WASHINGTON, DC 20401

	P.O. N	o.	Terms	Project
	2214-	S	Net 30	9
Description	Qty		Rate	Amount
RE: Muhammad Iqbal v. Alberto R. Gonzales Docket No. 04-6606-ag / Print Order No. 01899 For printing and binding 20copies of the above Brief for the Respondent:  Printing of 20 Covers @ Pages Text @ Party Served and Filed @ Relectronic Filing and Service of Brief @ Restage @		1 34 1 1 1	0.00 0.00 15.00 30.00 4.05	0.00 0.00 15.00 30.00 45.00 4.05
hank you for your business.		s	ubtotal	\$49.05
		S	ales Tax (0.0%)	\$0.00
		. Т	otal	\$49.05
		P	ayments/Credits	\$-49.05
		F	Salance Due	\$0.00

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229 West 36th Street, 8th Floor New York, N.Y. 10018-8019

# Invoice

Date	Invoice #
5/12/2006	A69817

	P.O. No.	Terms	Project
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	2214-S	Net 30	
Description	Qty	Rate	Amount
RE: USA v. Alex Mingo Docket No. 05-5736-cr / Print Order No. 01900 For printing and binding 20 copies of the above Brief for the US: Printing of 20 Covers @ Pages Text @ Party Served and Filed @ Electronic Filing and Service of Brief @ Postage @	1 23 1 1	60.00 2.00 15.00 30.00 2.79	60.00 46.00 15.00 30.00 151.00 2.79
Thank you for your business.		Subtotal	\$153.79
		Sales Tax (0.0%)	\$0.00
		Total	\$153.79
		Payments/Credits	\$-153.7
		Balance Due	\$0.0

229 West 36th Street, 8th Floor New York, N.Y. 10018-8019

# **Invoice**

Date	Invoice #
5/12/2006	A69818

P.O. No.	Terms	
	Terms	Project
2214-S	Net 30	
Qty	Rate	Amount
1	60.00	60.00
40 1 1	2.00 15.00 30.00	80.00 15.00 30.00 185.00
1	4.20	4.20
v a		
	Subtotal	\$189,20
	Sales Tax (0.0%)	\$0.00
	Total	\$189.20
	Payments/Credits	\$-189.20
	Balance Due	\$0.00
	Qty 1 40 1 1	1

229 West 36th Street, 8th Floor New York, N.Y. 10018-8019

### Invoice

Date	Invoice #	
5/12/2006	A69822	

Filed: 01/07/2015

Bill To

COMPTROLLER - STOP FMCE (ED) OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MGMT. US GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE WASHINGTON, DC 20401

	P.O. No.	Terms	Project
	2214-S	Net 30	·
Description	Qty	Rate	Amount
RE: USA v. Michael Bearam Docket No. 05-2823-cr / Print Order No. 01896 For printing and binding 20 copies of the above Brief and Appendix or the U.S.:  Printing of 20 Covers @ Pages Text @ Party Served and Filed @ Electronic Filing and Service of Brief @  Postage @	1 50 1 1	60.00 2.00 15.00 30.00 4.20	60.00 100.00 15.00 30.00 205.00 4.20
Thank you for your business.		Subtotal	\$209.20
		Sales Tax (0.0%)	\$0.00
		Total	\$209.20
	-	Payments/Credits	\$-209.20
		Balance Due	\$0.00

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229 West 36th Street, 8th Floor New York, N.Y. 10018-8019

# Invoice

Date	Invoice #	
5/12/2006	A69823	

Filed: 01/07/2015

Bill To

COMPTROLLER - STOP FMCE (ED) OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MGMT. US GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE WASHINGTON, DC 20401

	P.O. No.	Terms	Project	
*	2214-S	Net 30		
Description	Qty	Rate	Amount	
RE: USA v. Julio Armando Arce-Aldana Docket No. 05-6549-cr / Print Order No. 01901 For printing and binding 20 copies of the above Brief and for the U.S.:  Printing of 20 Covers @ Pages Text @ Party Served and Filed @ Electronic Filing and Service of Brief @  Postage @	1 23 1 1	60.00 2.00 15.00 30.00 2.79	60.00 46.00 15.00 30.00 151.00 2.79	
Thank you for your business.		Subtotal	\$153.79	
		Sales Tax (0.0%)	\$0.00	
,		Total	\$153.79	
	`	Payments/Credits	\$-153.79	
		Balance Due	\$0.00	

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229 West 36th Street, 8th Floor New York, N.Y. 10018-8019

## **Invoice**

Date	Invoice #
5/12/2006	A69824

	P.O.	No.	Terms	Project
	2214	4-S	Net 30	
Description	Qty		Rate	Amount
RE: Cecil Simon v. USA  Docket No. 05-1716-pr(L) / Print Order No. 01902  For printing and binding 20 copies of the above Brief for the U.S.:  Printing of 20 Covers @		1	60.00	60.00
Pages Text @ Party Served and Filed @ Electronic Filing and Service of Brief @		35	2.00 15.00 30.00	70.00 15.00 30.00 175.00
-				
Thank you for your business.	•		Subtotal	\$175.00
			Sales Tax (0.0%	\$0.00
			Total	\$175.00
			Payments/Credi	<b>ts</b> \$-175.00
		Γ	Balance Due	\$0.00

229 West 36th Street, 8th Floor New York, N.Y. 10018-8019

## Invoice

Date	Invoice #
5/12/2006	A69826

Filed: 01/07/2015

Bill To

COMPTROLLER - STOP FMCE (ED) OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MGMT. US GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE WASHINGTON, DC 20401

	P.O. N	0.	Terms	Project
	2214-5	S	Net 30	
Description	Qty		Rate	Amount
RE: USA v. Robert Roper Docket No. 05-6213-cr) / Print Order No. 01904 For printing and binding 20 copies of the above Brief for the U.S.: Printing of 20 Covers @ Pages Text @ Party Served and Filed @ Rectronic Filing and Service of Brief @ Postage @		1 27 1 1	60.00 2.00 15.00 30.00 3.03	60.00 54.00 15.00 30.00 159.00 3.03
hank you for your business.		s	ubtotal	\$162.03
		s	ales Tax (0.0%	\$0.00
		Т	otal	\$162.03
		P	ayments/Credit	ts \$-162.00
		B	alance Due	\$0.0

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229 West 36th Street, 8th Floor New York, N.Y. 10018-8019

## **Invoice**

Date	Invoice #
5/12/2006	A69827

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Bill To	49 1
COMPTROLLER - STOP FMCE (ED) OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MGMT. US GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE WASHINGTON, DC 20401	

	P.O. No.	Terms	Project
	2214-S	Net 30	
Description	Qty	Rate	Amount
RE: USA v. James Wilson Docket No. 05-6648-cr / Print Order No. 01905 For printing and binding 20 copies of the above Brief for the U.S.: Printing of 20 Covers @ Pages Text @ Party Served and Filed @ Electronic Filing and Service of Brief @ Postage @	1 30 1 1	60.00 2.00 15.00 30.00 4.05	60.00 60.00 15.00 30.00 165.00 4.05
Thank you for your business.		Subtotal	\$169.05
	1	Sales Tax (0.0%	\$0.00
		Total	\$169.05
		Payments/Credit	<b>S</b> \$-169.05
	T	Balance Due	\$0.0

229 West 36th Street, 8th Floor New York, N.Y. 10018-8019

## Invoice

Date	Invoice #
5/12/2006	A69828

Filed: 01/07/2015

Bill To

COMPTROLLER - STOP FMCE (ED)

OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MGMT.
US GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

WASHINGTON, DC 20401

	P.O. No.	Terms	Project
	2214-S	Net 30	
Description	Qty	Rate	Amount
RE: USA v. Philip Anthony Moe Docket No. 05-3864-cr / Print Order No. 01906 For printing and binding 20 copies of the above Brief and Appendix for the U.S.:			,
Printing of 20 Covers @ Pages Text @ Party Served and Filed @ Electronic Filing and Service of Brief @	1 32 1 1	60.00 2.00 15.00 30.00	60.00 64.00 15.00 30.00
Postage @	1	3.27	169.00 3.27
		<u>.</u>	
Thank you for your business.		Subtotal	\$172.27
		Sales Tax (0.0%)	\$0.00
		Total	\$172.27
	-	Payments/Credits	\$-172.27
	·	Balance Due	\$0.00

229 West 36th Street, 8th Floor New York, N.Y. 10018-8019

## **Invoice**

Date	Invoice #
5/12/2006	A69829

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JS GOVERNMENT WASHINGTON, DC			
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			r
	P.O. No.	Terms	Project
*	2214-S	Net 30	
Description	Qty	Rate	Amount
RE: USA v. Prince Kayode Adekoya Docket No. 05-3637-cr / Print Order No. 01907 For printing and binding 20 copies of the above Brief for the U.S.:			
Printing of 20 Covers @ Pages Text @	1 64	60.00 2.00	60.00 128.00
Party Served and Filed @	1	15.00	15.00
Electronic Filing and Service of Brief @	1	30.00	30.00
Postage @	1	5.00	233.00 5.00
Thank you for your business.			
mank you tor your business.		Subtotal	\$238.0
		Sales Tax (0.0%)	\$0.00
		Total	\$238.0
		Payments/Credit	<b>s</b> \$-238.0
	<u> </u>	Balance Due	\$0.0

229 West 36th Street, 8th Floor New York, N.Y. 10018-8019

## Invoice

Date	Invoice #
5/12/2006	A69830

Filed: 01/07/2015

	45		
	P.O. No.	Terms	Project
	2214-S	Net 30	
Description	Qty	Rate	Amount
RE: USA v. Prince Kayode Adekoya Docket No. 05-3637-cr / Print Order No. 01908 For printing and binding 13 copies of the above Government's Appendix:			
Printing of 13 Covers @ Pages Text @	1 146	39.00 1.30	39.00 189.80 228.80
Thank you for your business.		Subtotal	\$228.86
		Sales Tax (0.0%)	\$0.00
	-	Total	\$228.80
		Payments/Credits	\$-228.80
		Balance Due	\$0.00

229 West 36th Street, 8th Floor New York, N.Y. 10018-8019

## Invoice

Date	Invoice #
5/12/2006	A69831

Bill To	49 4
COMPTROLLER - STOP FMCE (ED) OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MGMT. US GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE WASHINGTON, DC 20401	<b>9</b>
WASHINGTON, DC 20401	

	P.O. No.	Terms	Project
	2214-S	Net 30	
Description	Qty	Rate	Amount
RE: USA v. Ennio Nemesio Esteban-Gomez Docket No. 05-5639-cr / Print Order No. 01910 For printing and binding 20 copies of the above Brief for the U.S.:			
Printing of 20 Covers @ Pages Text @ Party Served and Filed @ Electronic Filing and Service of Brief @	1 27 1 1	60.00 2.00 15.00 30.00	60.00 54.00 15.00 30.00 159.00
Postage @	1	3.03	3.03
Thank you for your business.		Subtotal	\$162.03
		Sales Tax (0.0%)	\$0.00
		Total	\$162.03
		Payments/Credits	\$-162.03
		Balance Due	\$0.00

229 West 36th Street, 8th Floor New York, N.Y. 10018-8019

## Invoice

Date	Invoice #
5/12/2006	A69838

Filed: 01/07/2015

Bill To

	P.O. No.	Terms	Project
	2214-S	Net 30	
Description	Qty	Rate	Amount
RE: USA v. Mon-Leang Mui Docket No. 05-3512-cr / Print Order No. 01909 For printing and binding 40 copies of the above Brief and Appendix of the USA:  Printing of 20 Covers @ Pages Text @ Party Served and Filed @ Electronic Filing and Service of Brief @  Postage @	1 92 1 1	60.00 2.00 15.00 30.00 5.00	60.00 184.00 15.00 30.00 289.00 5.00
Thank you for your business.	*	Subtotal	\$294.00
		Sales Tax (0.0%)	\$0.00
		Total	\$294.00
		Payments/Credits	\$-294.0
		Balance Due	\$0.0

229 West 36th Street, 8th Floor New York, N.Y. 10018-8019

## **Invoice**

Date	Invoice #
5/16/2006	A69876

	ì			<u></u>	
	9	P.O. No.		Terms	Project
		2214-S		Net 30	
Description		Qty		Rate	Amount
RE: Marron & Marron v. Alberto Gonzales Docket No. 05-3470 / Print Order No. 68044 For printing and binding 20 copies of the above Brief for the Respondent:  Printing of 20 Covers @ Pages Text @ Party Served and Filed @ Electronic Filing and Service of Brief @  Postage @		3	199111	60.00 2.00 15.00 30.00 4.20	60.00 78.00 15.00 30.00 183.00 4.20
Thank you for your business.			s	ubtotal	\$187.20
			s	ales Tax (0.0%)	\$0.00
			Т	otal	\$187.20
			P	ayments/Credits	\$ \$-187.2
			В	Balance Due	\$0.0

229 West 36th Street, 8th Floor New York, N.Y. 10018-8019

## Invoice

Date	Invoice #
5/17/2006	A69880

Filed: 01/07/2015

P.O. No.	Terms	Project
2214-S	Net 30	
Qty	Rate	Amount
1 76 1 1	66.00 2.20 15.00 30.00	66.00 167.20 15.00 30.00 278.20
1.	8.40	8.40
		s s
	¥	
	Subtotal	\$286.60
	Sales Tax (0.0%)	\$0.00
	Total	\$286.60
	Payments/Credits	\$-286.60
	Balance Due	\$0.00
	2214-S Qty 1 76 1	2214-S   Net 30     Qty

229 West 36th Street, 8th Floor New York, N.Y. 10018-8019

# Invoice

Date	Invoice #
5/31/2006	A70048

Bill To	49 3
COMPTROLLER - STOP FMCE (ED) OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MGMT. US GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE WASHINGTON, DC 20401	

	P.O. N	0.	т	erms	Project
	2214-5	3	N	Net 30	
	Qty		Ra	ite	Amount
		1 29 1		60.00 2.00 15.00 30.00	60.00 58.00 15.00 30.00
		1		4.05	163.00 4.05
1	£		¥		
		Τ	Subtota	<u> </u>	\$167.05
			Sales Ta	ax (0.0%)	\$0.00
			Total		\$167.05
	÷		Paymen	nts/Credits	\$-167.05
			Balance	Due	\$0.00
			1 29 1 1 1	Qty Ra    Compared to the comp	2214-S Net 30  Qty Rate  1 60.00 29 2.00 1 15.00 30.00 1 4.05  Subtotal  Sales Tax (0.0%)

229 West 36th Street, 8th Floor New York, N.Y. 10018-8019

## Invoice

Date	Invoice #
5/31/2006	A70052

Bill To

COMPTROLLER - STOP FMCE (ED)
OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MGMT.
US GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE
WASHINGTON, DC 20401

*	P.O. No.	Terms	Project
	2214-S	Net 30	
Description	Qty	Rate	Amount
RE: Xue Qi Lin v. Alberto Gonzales Docket No. 05-2537-ag / Print Order No. 68047 For printing and binding 20 copies of the above Brief for the Respondent:  Printing of 20 Covers @ Pages Text @ Party Served and Filed @ Electronic Filing and Service of Brief @  Postage @	1 21 1 1 1	60.00 2.00 15.00 30.00 2.55	60.00 42.00 15.00 30.00 147.00 2.55
Thank you for your business.		Subtotal	\$149.55
		Sales Tax (0.0%)	\$0.00
	Ī	Total	\$149.55
	ļ_	Payments/Credits	\$-149.55
		Balance Due	\$0.00

211

229 West 36th Street, 8th Floor New York, N.Y. 10018-8019

#### **Invoice**

Date	Invoice #
6/12/2006	A70097

Bill To

COMPTROLLER - STOP FMCE (ED)
OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MGMT.
US GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE
WASHINGTON, DC 20401

	P.O. No.	Terms	Project
	2214-S	Net 30	
Description	Qty	Rate	Amount
RE: USA v. Derwin McFarlane Docket No. 05-0227-cr(L) / Print Order No. 01879 Printing and binding 20 copies of the above Brief for the United States: Printing of 20 Covers @ Pages Text @ Party Served and Filed @ Electronic Filing and Service of Brief @ Postage @	1 68 1 1	60.00 2.00 15.00 30.00 10.35	60.00 136.00 15.00 30.00 241.00 10.35
Thank you for your business.		Subtotal	\$251.35
		Sales Tax (0.0%)	\$0.00
		Total	\$251.35
	-	Payments/Credits	\$-251.3
		Balance Due	\$0.0

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229 West 36th Street, 8th Floor New York, N.Y. 10018-8019

# Invoice

Date	Invoice #
6/12/2006	A70098

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Bill To	49 1 P
COMPTROLLER - STOP FMCE (ED) OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MGMT. US GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE WASHINGTON, DC 20401	
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	P.O. No.	Terms	Project
	2214-S	Net 30	
Description	Qty	Rate	Amount
RE: USA v. Derwin McFarlane Docket No. 05-0227-cr(L) / Print Order No. 01880 Printing and binding 14 copies of the above Government's Appendix:			:
Printing of 14 Covers @ Pages Text @	1 661	42.00	42.00 925.40 967.40
		9	
	÷		
Thank you for your business.		Subtotal	\$967.40
		Sales Tax (0.0%)	\$0.00
		Total	\$967.40
		Payments/Credits	\$-967.40
		Balance Due	\$0.0

229 West 36th Street, 8th Floor New York, N.Y. 10018-8019

#### Invoice

Date	Invoice #
6/12/2006	A70099

Filed: 01/07/2015

Bill To

OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MGMT. US GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE WASHINGTON, DC 20401

COMPTROLLER - STOP FMCE (ED)

P.O. No. Terms **Project** 2214-S Net 30 Qty Rate **Amount** Description RE: Robert v. Department of Justice Docket No. 05-1773cv/ Print Order No. 68036 Printing and binding 21 copies of the above Supplemental Letter Brief: Pages Text @ 18 2.10 37.80 Party Served and Filed @ 15.00 15.00 Electronic Filing and Service of Brief @ 30.00 30.00 82.80 Postage @ 2.07 2.07 Thank you for your business. Subtotal \$84.87 **Sales Tax (0.0%)** \$0.00 **Total** \$84.87 Payments/Credits \$-84.87 **Balance Due** \$0.00

1213. NO

229 West 36th Street, 8th Floor New York, N.Y. 10018-8019

## **Invoice**

Date	Invoice #
6/12/2006	A70100

Filed: 01/07/2015

	P.O. No		Terms	Project
	2214-S		Net 30	
Description	Qty		Rate	Amount
RE: USA v. Cecilio Reyes Oocket No. 05-6110-cr / Print Order No. 01876 Printing and binding 20 copies of the above Brief for the United States:				
Printing of 20 Covers @ Pages Text @		1 29	60.00 2.00	60.00 58.00
Party Served and Filed @ Electronic Filing and Service of Brief @		1	15.00 30.00	15.00 30.00 163.00
Postage @		. 1	9.20	9.20
				6
		ii		
			•1 18	8
*			v	
hank you for your business.		s	ubtotal	\$172.20
		S	ales Tax (0.0%	\$0.00
·		T	otal	\$172.20
		P	ayments/Credi	ts \$-172.20
* 2		В	alance Due	\$0.00

229 West 36th Street, 8th Floor New York, N.Y. 10018-8019

## Invoice

Date	Invoice #
6/12/2006	A70101

Bill To	
COMPTROLLER - STOP FMCE (ED) OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MGMT. US GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE WASHINGTON, DC 20401	

				я
	P.O. N	0.	Terms	Project
	2214-	S	Net 30	
Description	Qty		Rate	Amount
RE: Zhi Kang Gao v. John Ashcroft Docket No. 04-6592-ag / Print Order No. 01884 Printing and binding 20 copies of the above Brief for the Respondents:  Printing of 20 Covers @ Pages Text @ Party Served and Filed @ Electronic Filing and Service of Brief @  Postage @		1 25 1 1	60.00 2.00 15.00 30.00 3.03	60.00 50.00 15.00 30.00 155.00 3.03
Thank you for your business.			Subtotal	\$158.03
			Sales Tax (0.0%	\$0.00
			Total	\$158.03
*			Payments/Credit	ts \$-158.03
			Balance Due	\$0.00

229 West 36th Street, 8th Floor New York, N.Y. 10018-8019

## **Invoice**

Date	Invoice #
6/12/2006	A70102

Bill To COMPTROLLER - STOP FMCE (ED) OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MGMT.

US GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE WASHINGTON, DC 20401

· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	P.O. No.	Terms	Ducinet
			Project
	2214-S	Net 30	
Description	Qty	Rate	Amount
RE: USA v. James Vargo Docket No. 05-3751-cv / Print Order No. 68037 Printing and binding 20 copies of the above Brief for the United States:  Printing of 20 Covers @ Pages Text @ Party Served and Filed @ Electronic Filing and Service of Brief @  Postage @	1 85 1 1	60.00 2.00 15.00 30.00 5.00	60.00 170.00 15.00 30.00 275.00 5.00
Thank you for your business.		Subtotal	\$280.00
		Sales Tax (0.0%)	\$0.00
		Total	\$280.00
		Payments/Credits	\$-280.00
		Balance Due	\$0.0

229 West 36th Street, 8th Floor New York, N.Y. 10018-8019

## Invoice

Date	Invoice #
6/12/2006	A70103

Bill To

COMPTROLLER - STOP FMCE (ED)
OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MGMT.
US GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE
WASHINGTON, DC 20401

	P.O. No.	Terms	Project
	2214-S	Net 30	
Description	Qty	Rate	Amount
RE: Charles A. Urrego v. USA Docket No. 05-3751-cv / Print Order No. 68037 Printing and binding 20 copies of the above Brief for the Defendants-Appellees: Printing of 20 Covers @ Pages Text @ Party Served and Filed @ Electronic Filing and Service of Brief @ Postage @	1 49 1 1	60.00 2.00 15.00 30.00 4.20	60.00 98.00 15.00 30.00 203.00 4.20
Thank you for your business.		Subtotal	\$207.20
		Sales Tax (0.0%)	\$0.00
		Total	\$207.20
		Payments/Credits	\$-207.20
		Balance Due	\$0.00

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229 West 36th Street, 8th Floor New York, N.Y. 10018-8019

## Invoice

Date	Invoice #
6/12/2006	A70104

Filed: 01/07/2015

Bill To

COMPTROLLER - STOP FMCE (ED)
OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MGMT.
US GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE
WASHINGTON, DC 20401

	P.O. No.	Terms	Project
	2214-S	Net 30	
Description	Qty	Rate	Amount
RE: USA v. Elizabeth Mateo Depena Docket No. 05-5092-cr / Print Order No. 01870 Printing and binding 20 copies of the above Brief for the United States:  Printing of 20 Covers @ Pages Text @ Party Served and Filed @ Electronic Filing and Service of Brief @  Postage @	1 91 1 1	60.00 2.00 15.00 30.00 4.20	60.00 182.00 15.00 30.00 287.00 4.20
Thank you for your business.		Subtotal	\$291.20
		Sales Tax (0.0%	\$0.00
		Total	\$291.20
	·	Payments/Credit	\$-291.20
	Γ	Balance Due	\$0.00

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229 West 36th Street, 8th Floor New York, N.Y. 10018-8019

## Invoice

Date	Invoice #
6/12/2006	A70106

Filed: 01/07/2015

Bill To

	P.O. No.	Terms	Project
·	2214-8	Net 30	
Description	Qty	Rate	Amount
RE: USA v. Frantz Bouloute Docket No. 05-2981-cr / Print Order No. 01885 Printing and binding 20 copies of the above Brief for the United States:  Printing of 20 Covers @ Pages Text @ Party Served and Filed @ Electronic Filing and Service of Brief @  Postage @	1 50 1 1	2.00 15.00 30.00	60.00 100.00 15.00 30.00 205.00 10.40
Thank you for your business.		Subtotal	\$215.40
		Sales Tax (0.0%	\$0.00
		Total	\$215.40
		Payments/Credi	ts \$-215.40
	Ī	Balance Due	\$0.00

229 West 36th Street, 8th Floor New York, N.Y. 10018-8019

## Invoice

Date	Invoice #
6/12/2006	A70107

	P.O. No.	Terms	Project
•	2214-S	Net 30	
Description	Qty	Rate	Amount
RE: USA v. Frantz Bouloute Docket No. 05-2981-cr / Print Order No. 01886 Printing and binding 14 copies of the above Government's Appendix:			
rinting of 14 Covers @ lages Text @	636	42.00 1.40	42.00 890.40 932.40
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		ž.	
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Thank you for your business.		Subtotal	\$932.40
		Sales Tax (0.0%)	\$0.00
		Total	\$932.40
		Payments/Credits	\$-932.40
		Balance Due	\$0.00

<u>229 West 36th Street, 8th Floor</u> <u>New York, N.Y. 10018-8019</u>

## Invoice

Date	Invoice #
6/19/2006	A70183

			4111
Bill To		40	
COMPTROLLER - STOP FMCE (ED) OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MGMT. US GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE WASHINGTON, DC 20401	3 3 3	•	

•	P.O. No.	Te	rms	Project
	2214-S	Ne	et 30	
Description	Qty	Rate	• [	Amount
RE: Albert Pashaj v. Alberto Gonzales Docket No. 05-0899-ag / Print Order No. 68053 For printing and binding 20 copies of the above Brief for the Respondent:				
rinting of 20 Covers @ lages Text @ larty Served and Filed @ Electronic Filing and Service of Brief @	4	1 6 1 1	60.00 2.00 15.00 30.00	60.00 92.00 15.00 30.00
Postage @		1	4.20	197.00 4.20
	•	8	f	
				*
Thank you for your business.		Subtotal	n a	\$201.20
		Sales Ta	x (0.0%)	\$0.00
		Total		\$201.20
		Payment	s/Credits	\$-201.20
		Balance	Due	\$0.00

229 West 36th Street, 8th Floor New York, N.Y. 10018-8019

## Invoice

Date	Invoice #
6/21/2006	A70194

	410
Bill To	10
COMPTROLLER - STOP FMCE (ED) OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MGMT. US GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE WASHINGTON, DC 20401	•

	is a			
	P.O. No.	Terms	Project	
	2214-S	Net 30		
Description	Qty	Rate	Amount	
RE: Rodolfo Sosa v. Michael Chertoff Docket No. 05-5035-ag / Print Order No. 68054 For printing and binding 21 copies of the above Brief for the Respondents:  Printing of 21 Covers @ Pages Text @ Party Served and Filed @ Electronic Filing and Service of Brief @  Postage @	1 26 1 1	63.00 2.10 15.00 30.00 3.03	63.00 54.60 15.00 30.00 162.60 3.03	
Thank you for your business.		Subtotal	\$165.63	
		Sales Tax (0.0%	\$0.00	
	Ī	Total	\$165.63	
		Payments/Credi	<b>ts</b> \$-165.63	
		Balance Due	\$0.00	

229 West 36th Street, 8th Floor New York, N.Y. 10018-8019

## Invoice

Date	Invoice #
6/21/2006	A70197

Filed: 01/07/2015

Bill To

COMPTROLLER - STOP FMCE (ED) OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MGMT. US GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE WASHINGTON, DC 20401

	P.O. No.	Terms	Project
	2231-S	Net 30	
Description	Qty	Rate	Amount
RE: Jennifer Joshua v. Attorney General of the U.S. Docket No. 03-41052-ag / Print No. 68052 For printing and binding 21 copies of the above Brief for the Respondent:			
Printing of 21 Covers @ Pages Text @ Party Served and Filed @ Electronic Filing and Service of Brief @	2	1 63.00 2 2.10 1 15.00 1 30.00	63.00 46.20 15.00 30.00 154.20
'ostage @		1 2.55	2.55
		F 4.	
Thank you for your business.		Subtotal	\$156.75
		Sales Tax (0.0%	5) \$0.00
		Total	\$156.75
		Payments/Credi	ts \$-156.75
*		Balance Due	\$0.00

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229 West 36th Street, 8th Floor New York, N.Y. 10018-8019

# Invoice

Date	Invoice #
6/21/2006	A70203

	400
Bill To	
COMPTROLLER - STOP FMCE (ED)	7 -
OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MGMT.	
JS GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE	
VASHINGTON, DC 20401	

	P.O.1	No.	Terms	Project
	2214	-S	Net 30	
Description	Qty		Rate	Amount
RE: John P. Barnes v. USA Docket No. 04-6609-cv(L) / Print Order No. 68049 For printing and binding 20 copies of the above Brief for the Defendants-Appellees:				
Printing of 20 Covers @		1	60.00	60.00
Pages Text @		55	2.00	110.00
Party Served and Filed @		1	15.00	15.00
Electronic Filing and Service of Brief @		1	30.00	30.00
Postage @		1	4.20	215.00 4.20
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* _				
Thank you for your business.			Subtotal	\$219.20
			Sales Tax (0.0%	\$0.00
			Total	\$219.20
			Payments/Credit	s \$-219.20
			Balance Due	\$0.0

229 West 36th Street, 8th Floor New York, N.Y. 10018-8019

## Invoice

Date	Invoice #		
6/29/2006	A70279		

Filed: 01/07/2015

Bill	То		

COMPTROLLER - STOP FMCE (ED) OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MGMT. US GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE WASHINGTON, DC 20401

	P.O. No.	Terms	Project
	2214-S	Net 30	
Description	Qty	Rate	Amount
RE: USA v. Kareem A. Ford Docket No. 05-6668-cr/ Print Order No. 01923 For printing and binding 20 copies of the above Brief and Appendix For the United States:  Printing of 20 Covers @ Pages Text @ Party Served and Filed @ Electronic Filing and Service of Brief @  Postage @	1 51 1	60.00 2.00 15.00 30.00 6.05	60.00 102.00 15.00 30.00 207.00 6.05
Thank you for your business.		Subtotal	\$213.05
		Sales Tax (0.0%)	\$0.00
		Total	\$213.05
		Payments/Credits	\$-213.05
		Balance Due	\$0.00

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229 West 36th Street, 8th Floor New York, N.Y. 10018-8019

#### **Invoice**

Date	Invoice #
6/29/2006	A70280

Filed: 01/07/2015

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	P.O. No.	Terms	Project
	2214-S	Net 30	
Description	Qty	Rate	Amount
RE: USA v. John Drayton Docket No. 05-4991-cr/ Print Order No. 01922 For printing and binding 20 copies of the above Brief for the United states:  Printing of 20 Covers @ Pages Text @ Party Served and Filed @ Electronic Filing and Service of Brief @ Postage @	4	1 60.00 1 2.00 1 15.00 1 30.00 1 4.20	60.00 82.00 15.00 30.00 187.00 4.20
Chank you for your business.		Subtotal	\$191.20
		Sales Tax (0.0%	\$0.00
		Total	\$191.20
		Payments/Credi	ts \$-191.20
	*	Balance Due	\$0.00

229 West 36th Street, 8th Floor New York, N.Y. 10018-8019

## **Invoice**

Date	Invoice #		
6/29/2006	A70281		

Filed: 01/07/2015

PAN Bill To COMPTROLLER - STOP FMCE (ED)

US GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE WASHINGTON, DC 20401

OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MGMT.

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	P.O. No.	Terms	Project
	2214-S	Net 30	
Description	Qty	Rate	Amount
RE: USA v. Oleg Verkhoglyad Docket No. 05-4210-cr/ Print Order No. 01920 For printing and binding 20 copies of the above Brief for the United States:  Printing of 20 Covers @ Pages Text @ Party Served and Filed @ Electronic Filing and Service of Brief @  Postage @	1 21 1 1	60.00 2.00 15.00 30.00 3.27	60.00 42.00 15.00 30.00 147.00 3.27
Thank you for your business.		Subtotal	\$150.27
		Sales Tax (0.0%	\$0.00
	*,	Total	\$150.27
		Payments/Credit	<b>s</b> \$-150.27
		Balance Due	\$0,00